

1-27-94

The Warrior Club
East Central Community College
Decatur, Mississippi 39327

Dear Baseball Coach

This thing has got my mind going back to the year of Spring time in 1948. We were out for baseball and had our first game. The coach came to all of us sitting and he was wanting a pinch hitter. He ask 7 ~~me~~ before he got to me they said they would try. He got to me and I said yes sir and he put me in and I got a single. The next game we played at North East college in Miss. and he did the same thing again and when he got to me I said yessir and I went to bat with two men on base and I hit a homerun and I played first base on the team the rest of the year. My yearly average was over 400, I think it was 430. I cant ever forget this time I cannot member any thing else. My dad always told me to believe you can hit the ball when I was growing up. He was and old time school teacher and played semi pro baseball some. he played until he got pretty old. he finished at this school before they had a college .

I hope you have a good year .

Sinceryl yours

Malcolm M. Spence
Malcolm M. Spence, Sr.



July 4, 1995

Dear Mr. Vickers,

Congratulations on the Ovid Sparks Vickers Fine Arts Center at East Central Community College. Congratulations on your retirement. Congratulations on your column in *The Scott County Times*. I cannot imagine how you find the time to write a column. It takes me so long just to write a letter.

When I was a girl I could sit down and knock out a letter in 5 minutes tops. I wrote 5-minute letters to Rin Tin Tin and to Black Beauty for reasons which certainly require no explanation. And I wrote one to Gene Autry because once, on his way to Memphis to sing on the radio (WREC), he had stopped in at the American Legion hut in Stuttgart, Arkansas and danced the first dance with my mother. I got autographed pictures back from Rin Tin Tin and Black Beauty.

In high school, a letter took 12 minutes, 5 to compose on lined notebook paper, 5 to copy in my practiced feminine script. A ruler kept the lines straight, so 2 minutes to go back through and finish the tails on the g's and p's and y's. I used pale blue-tinted stationery from Ott's Drug Store where a nickle bought an ice cream cone, choice of two flavors. Skipping the ice cream and adding a dime I could buy a paperback novel. But then I had to leave by the back door to avoid the novel-disapproving eyes of my grandfather who sat on the loafer's bench in front of Ott's with *The Scott County Times* columnist Frisky Roland's grandfather. One of them was always telling a story, and another old gentleman was forever whittling on a thumbsized (always the same size) piece of wood with his elegant Case pocketknife.

I wrote a 12-minute letter every day my last two years of high school. To an army boy from Leesburg who must have been homesick, for he sent no photos of army life, but green foliage, springtime pictures. The countryside around Bremerhaven, Germany could almost match Scott County for tall trees, curving hills, smooth lakes with swans and weeping willows. He felt closer to home there than he had in boot camp at Fort Hood, Texas, hot, flat country broken by deep gulches, normally dry but (with no topsoil to soak up the water when it did rain) subject to flash flooding, which had to have been hard on a Mississippi boy. He bumped into another Mississippi boy at Fort Hood, who wrote his name on the back of a wallet-sized snapshot of me in pedal pushers and ponytail posed self-consciously under a pear tree in my parents' front yard on Agnew Street in Morton.

I carried Elvis' autograph in my wallet through East Central Junior College where I was a P.E. Major in love with Miss Wood's classes and so homesick my first time away that letters home to Mother, to Billy Ray Tadlock, to Ted Hannah took 15 minutes.

I carried the autograph through Delta State ('61-63) where I wrote 30-minute letters to a boy at East Central who was messing up my dreams bigtime. I was a Drama Major then. The last semester of my senior year Dr. Ralph Hitt told me adding his 18th Century

Literature and Dr. Butler's course on John Milton would give me enough hours for a double major (English and Drama). I took his advice, and Dr. Hitt recommended me to LSU graduate school for a three-year English scholarship.

I carried Elvis' autograph through Louisiana State University where there was little time for letter-writing. My Mississippi education was a fine one, but a three-year scholarship meant nonstop reading if I expected to get a masters and a doctorate before the money ran out. I was competing with students some of whom had been reading the classics before I was born.

Putting myself through school (band scholarships and work: sweeping Mr. Gerald Wells' art classroom and Mr. Fick's band hall the first year, grading papers for you the second year, library work my two years at Delta State), I had not read for pleasure since the Zane Gray and Frank Yerby paperbacks from Ott's Drug Store--oh yes and passages in *Lady Chatterly's Lover* Paul Eaves underlined while working lights for *The Diary of Ann Frank*.

So at LSU, I was playing catch-up ball--in breadth. Not depth. Thanks to you and Miss Una Harris I knew British and American Literature. Thanks to Ralph Hitt I passed my doctoral exams never needing a graduate course in 18th Century Lit. As for Dr. Maria H. Butler--her courses are legendary. Back then everybody read a few of Milton's short poems and the first two books of *Paradise Lost*. I think I was the only person at LSU who had read the entire twelve books and *Paradise Regained*. And I have never met another human being who has read all of *Samson Agonistes*.

All this time I carried Elvis' autograph in my wallet, showing it to no more than one or two people. You remember how quiet I was and introverted, traits confirmed Christmas Eve '66 when my fiancée took me to Lafayette, Louisiana to meet his mother. We went out to celebrate our engagement at The Blue Note--my first taste of nightlife, soured when my purse (That signature!) was stolen while we were dancing.

A couple of years later in Las Vegas, Caesar's Palace I think, we sat at a table in the back corner of the largest room I'd ever been in. A svelte Elvis stood on stage in black pants and red shirt and sang. To me. It wasn't just that he looked over the heads of a thousand people (or so it seemed to a Mississippi girl still unused to crowds) back to our corner and straight into my eyes. It was his voice. You know the one-on-one tone in the kitchen at midnight talking to someone you love about something that matters. It wasn't in his talking voice between songs. But when he sang, it was there. He was there. I was there. And nobody else was in the room.

My letters were up to an hour by this time. There was so much to tell. I had married, graduated from LSU, and was teaching at Loyola University in New Orleans, hired by John William Corrington, poet and professor when I met him. While I knew him he would become a novelist, lawyer and writer of novellas, short stories, screenplays (*The Omega Man*, *The Battle for the Planet of the Apes*), soap operas (*Search for Tomorrow*, *Another World*, *One Life to Live*, *General Hospital*), and the Hallmark Hall of Fame movie, *Decoration Day* with James Garner. Bill Corrington grew up in Shreveport and was a life-long aficionado of The War Between

the States. He called it "Our War" and named one of his sons for Stonewall Jackson. I think the reason he hired me over the other applicants was that I was from Mississippi, the state that had produced the Ole Miss class who joined as a unit, fought as a unit, and died as a unit at Gettysburg, the story of which he repeated often, seated in the only other chair in my office while people gathered in the hall, posing as students waiting for a conference, to listen with rapturous faces. He was almost as spell-binding, almost as good a storyteller as you are, Mr. Ovid S. (for sex--Do you remember telling us that?) Vickers.

I wrote Mother an hour-long letter my first year at Loyola about sharing an office with novelist Walker Percy who never recognized me as his office mate but always acted surprised to see me, addressed me as though I were an intrusive student, informed me that I (his office mate) was out and instructed me to wait for myself in the hall. I reintroduced myself to him again and again. Looking back now I realize that he could hardly have failed to recognize me--I was pregnant that year with my Patrick.

It took much longer than an hour to write (though often never mailed) about the prejudice outside Mississippi (Bill Corrington one shining exception) against Mississippians. Also there exists some strange snobbery that stereotypes southern speech as intellectually inferior. By chance I discovered that one of my colleagues, using a British accent to pass himself off as an Englishman, had grown up in Alabama. And when a colleague from Boston (her Ph.D. from Berkeley) snottily asked me what I, a professor, was going to do about my drawl, I told her I planned to cultivate it. (Which I have--*their* prejudice not *my* problem.)

By the time I left New Orleans in '77 to teach at Incarnate Word College in San Antonio, a letter could take me all day. You'd think it would get easier, wouldn't you, and that one would get faster, more proficient? But no, the situation has in fact worsened over the years, so that now it takes months.

For instance, I began this letter to you in my head back in January about the time Devi my granddaughter (looks just like me) celebrated her first birthday. I added to it in February when you wrote that you were beginning your last semester of teaching. I told you what a difference you had made in my life, how I owed you so much for seeing something in me worth encouraging, and would never forget the wonder of being in your plays. On March 4, my sister Jean's birthday, I added how she loved being at ECJC. Do stop and say hello to Jean, her husband Roger, and son Kevin McKay next month at the Neshoba County Fair. You'll find them on (Jean's ECJC roommate) Patsy and Gilbert Donald's front porch.

I added a paragraph or two to your letter on April 27, 27th birthday of my Patrick, a tall, brown-eyed man with character already in his face. Picture him sitting sideways in an old flower-backed oak chair bought on Magazine Street in New Orleans, legs too long to go under my dining room table. It is spread with a handmade white flower-patterned tablecloth bought in Mexico City the day he was conceived.

Perched prim as a kildee on his lap, his 15-month-old daughter, Devi, in a white floral party dress, her demure smile itself a flower. Slowly she lifts her arm over her head, though

not stopping at the end of a ladylike stretch but curving the arm down like a lazy swan's neck until her baby fingertips are almost ready to close on the black wick of a birthday candle in her father's cake. She looks a shy question into his eyes. It is all right. The candles are cool now. He has already huffed and puffed and blown them all out. With a slow natural ballet grace she did not get from me, her delicate fingers pluck the candle as though it were a petunia. She brings it to her dainty lips, sucks icing, starts chewing on the wax. My girl, through and through.

I added timely, hearty Congratulations on May 6. Back in October I had agreed to be in a friend's wedding on that day. So I stood in a long blue dress on the banks of the Guadalupe River under tall cypress trees reading a poem I had written for the occasion. But I wanted to be in Decatur, Mississippi. I wanted to see Linda Lea Glasgow, Dot Kern, Jimmy Gibbs, Zerelda (Zee) Ogeron Williams, Larry Hogue, Nancy Eaves, Johnny Walton, Hilda Adair, Tony and Larry Henderson, Charlotte and Gene Tate, Nan Harbor, Malcolm Massey, Brenda Whatley, Corinne Cross Neal, Henry Dean and the Hortons, Patsy Clark, Coach Denver Brackeen, Melvin Tingle, Alice Pouncey, the Hannahs and Dr. Eddie Smith. I wanted to bring you flowers. I wanted to knight you. Or at least make a speech in your honor, read a poem, something.

Last week Mother sent me your first column in *The Scott County Times*, and my letter grew, asking you to share with your readers some of Martha Cleveland's first grader tales. Before I forget, I want to subscribe. Please ask Sid Salter from Beulah Hubbard to put my name on the mailing list and bill me. Oh, and thanks a million (*mil gracias* we say in San Antonio) for sharing with us the pinecone turkey Martha's son Patrick made for you when he was five. My Patrick did an abstract finger-painting entitled Mardi Gras when he was four that should be hanging in the Louve in Paris, France today, it is that good.

Hello to Pat Cleveland and Melanie, to Paula Salter and to your own Carol, Nona, Harriet and Ovid, all of whom I hope you'll be writing about. Hello to everyone in Decatur and in Morton. Hello to everyone in Scott County except Forest. I'm not speaking to Forest for the shabby way they played ball against the Morton Panthers in 1959. Ordinarily I'm not one to hold a grudge, but you ask Truman Manning or Kenneth (Choctaw) McCullough or Arthur Coward or Bill Richardson or William Richardson...you ask Judge Alfred George (Nicky) Nicols (you know you'll get the truth from a judge) if those Forest boys treated us right that last game of the season.

Love,

Jo

Jo (Agnew) LeCoeur



State College, Miss.
April 26, 1932

To the Registrar:

Please furnish me at your earliest convenience the average of the grades for the following men for the entire time that they have been in school:

18 Wiseman, N. G. ~~Stewart~~
19 Stewart, R. K.
20 Long, J. H.
21 Neal, R. E.
22 Hurt, J. N.
23 Vickery, R. E.
24 Johnson, J. C.
25 Johnson, L. W.
26 Bailey, J.
27 Smith, L. B.
28 Wooten, E. E.
29 Horton, M. E.
30 Haynes, J. R.
31 Davis, E. S.
32 Lehman, C. A.
33 Page, W. C.
34 Davis, J. A.
35 Glover, W. R.
36 Craig, L. W.
37 Parker, R. H.
38 Norton, E. C.
39 Sullivan, C. W.
40 Ellis, T. E.
41 Swords, O. O.
42 Cox, J. W.
43 Martin, E. C.
44 Gartrell, J.
45 Edwards, J. R.
46 Trotter, J. L.

*Craig's alphabetical list
sign and bring to
my room sometime
tonight*
*J. H. [Signature]
4/26/32*

Very truly yours,

R. G. Craig
Sec. of Alpha Zeta

*Boone
Caseley
Gunn*

JOHN C. STENNIS, MISSISSIPPI, CHAIRMAN

ROBERT C. BYRD, WEST VIRGINIA
WILLIAM PROXMIRE, WISCONSIN
DANIEL K. INOUE, HAWAII
ERNEST F. HOLLINGS, SOUTH CAROLINA
LAWTON CHILES, FLORIDA
J. BENNETT JOHNSTON, LOUISIANA
QUENTIN N. BURDICK, NORTH DAKOTA
PATRICK J. LEAHY, VERMONT
JIM SASSER, TENNESSEE
DENNIS DECONCINI, ARIZONA
DALE BUMPERS, ARKANSAS
FRANK R. LAUTENBERG, NEW JERSEY
TOM HARKIN, IOWA
BARBARA A. MIKULSKI, MARYLAND
HARRY REID, NEVADA

MARK O. HATFIELD, OREGON
TED STEVENS, ALASKA
LOWELL P. WEICKER, JR., CONNECTICUT
JAMES A. MCCLURE, IDAHO
JAKE GARN, UTAH
THAD COCHRAN, MISSISSIPPI
ROBERT W. KASTEN, JR., WISCONSIN
ALFONSE M. D'AMATO, NEW YORK
WARREN RUDMAN, NEW HAMPSHIRE
ARLEN SPECTER, PENNSYLVANIA
PETE V. DOMENICI, NEW MEXICO
CHARLES E. GRASSLEY, IOWA
DON NICKLES, OKLAHOMA

FRANCIS J. SULLIVAN, STAFF DIRECTOR
J. KEITH KENNEDY, MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6025

May 29, 1987

Dr. Eddie Smith, President
East Central Jr. College
Office of the President
Decatur, Mississippi 39327

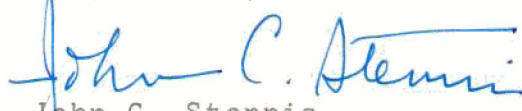
Dear Eddie:

As another school year draws to a close, I am reminded again of the hard work and solid leadership provided by people like you in giving educational opportunities to our young people. My own personal appreciation for your efforts is influenced heavily by my experiences growing up in a family that produced several educators.

I know how important our schools are to the future of our state and nation, and I pledge my continued support as you continue to work to provide our young people with the best possible opportunities.

With gratitude and good wishes, I am

Your friend,


John C. Stennis
United States Senator

JCS/brc

Enclosure





United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 100th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 133

WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, MAY 6, 1987

No. 72

Senate

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Mississippi.

Mr. STENNIS. Mr. President, today I also wish to discuss our national commitment to education—the training and preparation of our young people who will bear the responsibility of carrying this Nation forward into the next century and beyond.

There are a lot of other matters that will demand our time and attention this year, but I submit that no issue is more important. If we are to meet our responsibility as elected representatives of the people, we must look ahead to the needs of the future and take positive steps to give our youth the best possible opportunity to compete in a rapidly changing world.

I am actually alarmed by the recommendation contained in the administration's fiscal year 1988 budget that the Federal commitment to education be significantly reduced at a time when all signs point to the need for better trained, better educated Americans. This is no time to be pulling back on the potential for development we are offering our young people.

The administration's request for education reflects a 28-percent reduction from last year's funding. Even more dramatic, however, is the realization that this figure, when adjusted for inflation, falls nearly \$1 million short of reaching the 1980 spending level for education. It's obvious that to accept this proposal would be to move in the wrong direction.

Nearly every newspaper or news magazine I pick up contains something on the so-called competitiveness issue. In fact, I have heard a lot of good discussion on that matter here on this floor and from the administration. Everyone agrees that we are in a difficult situation, having lost at least some of the competitive edge which has meant so much to our economic standing throughout most of our history as a nation. Development beyond our own borders has made world competition much more formidable. We know we must respond quickly and positively if we are to retain our position as world leader.

How can we fail to see the importance of education? How do we think we ever reached this position as the most economically powerful Nation in the world?

Mr. President, I find it worthwhile in this year in which we celebrate 200 years under our Constitution to go back and examine some of the

was our commitment to provide educational opportunities to all of our people, regardless of their economic standing.

From the very beginning, America worked to develop a system of public education that would provide our young people an opportunity to develop their minds to full capacity. We have had remarkable success in establishing such a system. We have achieved a high quality of education in many of our schools and universities. Education has not been restricted to those who could afford to pay or those who were in some way set aside for special treatment. We have worked to educate all bright and capable minds of youngsters who are willing to work hard for the opportunity.

I believe our commitment to education has been a major factor in our economic success. The technological advantages we have achieved in this country would not have been possible without our education system which provided young Americans with the necessary training to expand the horizons. We developed into a nation of producers and innovators.

Now we find that our competitors in the world marketplace are placing greater emphasis on education. Japan is a good example. Certainly there are parts of the Japanese education system we would not want to copy, but no one can deny that Japan outpaces us in many areas like the percentage of students who complete high school. Other countries have increased their emphasis on education, and the results are evident in the stiff competition we are now facing worldwide.

Clearly, this is no time to turn back on our commitment to education in the United States. Surely we can see the great need to train and equip our young people to meet the challenges of world competition which are sure to intensify in the years ahead.

Yet are we demonstrating a real willingness to meet our own challenge in providing the best educational opportunities possible to our young people?

A lot of people have expressed alarm, and many involved in education throughout the country are developing and implementing programs designed to improve the quality of education at every level. Some progress has been made, particularly in school districts where the community has gotten involved and made a deeper commitment through financial sup-

threaten the quality of education in our schools and universities, but would also take away the potential for some of our young people to go to college and develop their minds to full capacity. That would be a terrible waste which would have a negative impact beyond the individuals who would be denied the opportunity. It would also severely harm our ability as a nation to compete in the world.

The time to train the mind is when it is young. We will miss opportunities forever if we fail to get our young people in school and give them the best challenge possible during their youthful years. They need encouragement to train their minds and develop skills, or they will miss the chance at a fully productive life.

It is for this reason that I joined some of my colleagues recently in proposing an amendment to the budget resolution which would provide a real increase in education funding of \$1.7 billion, still billions of dollars short of what it was in 1980. I am pleased that the budget resolution we are considering today includes that amendment, almost in its entirety. We will not be offering our amendment, and I plan to support this recommendation. These funds will allow us to provide additional support for high priority programs which serve our neediest students at all education levels.

I do not advocate waste in education or in any part of the budget. I believe we should hold everyone associated with administering education programs to a high level of accountability. But we must not lose sight of the important role education has played in our development as a nation, and the essential nature of quality education in our efforts to remain competitive in the world market. These funds are necessary to maintain those efforts.

I know we are looking for every reasonable way to reduce the deficit. I am fully involved in that effort and have been for years now. But we must be sure that we do not neglect our opportunity to invest in young minds—an investment that is sure to pay dividends. We must consider every portion of the budget, including defense, and make the tough decisions that will allow us to keep our historical commitment to our youth.

Now nobody can rightly accuse me of neglecting the military. I was chairman of the Armed Services Committee for 11 years and I have always advocated a strong national defense as the

EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

DECATUR, MISSISSIPPI 39327

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

601-635-2111

August 24, 1994

Mrs. Virginia H. Lacy



It greatly saddens those of us at East Central Community College who knew and loved Miss Una Harris to learn of her death. Miss Una became a legendary figure at East Central as she carried forth her teaching assignments in a most unique and effective manner.

I had the privilege of having had Miss Una as my sophomore literature instructor. The work that I did to complete the requirements for the English literature classes was so valued that until this day I keep the notebook and textbook for these courses in my office at the College.

We grieve in her passing and rejoice because we knew and loved her.

With best regards, I am

Sincerely yours,



Eddie M. Smith
President

EMS:las

bcc: Mrs. Burkes (Archives file) ✓
Mr. Vickers

EAST CENTRAL JUNIOR COLLEGE

DECATUR, MISSISSIPPI 39327

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

601-635-2111

December 3, 1986

Mr. Robin Williams



By means of this correspondence I would like to formally thank you for your superior work in designing and building the display case for the official ceremonial mace and presidential medallion for East Central Junior College. Your workmanship is of the finest quality.

We will have a brass plate affixed to the case signifying that you were the designer and builder. This shall have real significance especially in future years.

You have tremendous potential in your area of skill. I am confident that with your talents, training, and intellectual capabilities you will meet with great success both personally and professionally.

Best wishes for all your future endeavors and please let me know as I can ever be of assistance to you in any way.

Sincerely yours,



Eddie M. Smith
President

EMS:las

cc: Dr. Brad Tucker
Mr. O. L. Newell
Mr. Larry Blackburn
ECJC Archives Room ✓



EAST CENTRAL JUNIOR COLLEGE

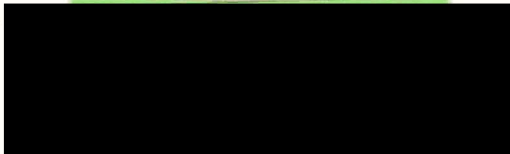
DECATUR, MISSISSIPPI 39327

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

601-635-2111

September 29, 1987

Mrs. Nell Ewing
Director of Communications
Phi Theta Kappa



Thank you for your very kind letter of September 28, 1987, and for the privilege of having a sample letter with my signature included in your officers' manual.

The letter you wrote is great! I did take the liberty of "East Centralizing" it just a little.

Please feel free to use the letter as you wish.

With best regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Eddie M. Smith".

Eddie M. Smith
President

EMS:las

Enclosure

cc: Mrs. Ann Burkes ✓
Dr. Shelby Harris

EAST CENTRAL JUNIOR COLLEGE

DECATUR, MISSISSIPPI 39327

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

601-635-2111

September 28, 1987

[REDACTED]

Dear Jane,

It is my pleasure and privilege to inform you that your outstanding academic record makes you eligible for membership in Phi Theta Kappa, the national honor fraternity for two-year colleges.

I would like to extend my personal congratulations to you for this academic achievement. And, on behalf of Theta Xi chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, chapter advisors Mrs. Ann Burkes and Dr. Shelby Harris, and the officers and members, I would like to invite you to attend an orientation meeting for prospective members, scheduled for Thursday, November 5, at 3:00 p.m., in Room 60 of Newton Hall.

Membership in Phi Theta Kappa is a highly coveted honor that will enrich your life while you attend East Central, and also remain with you as you pursue your further educational or career goals. I would strongly recommend that you take advantage of the opportunity to join this prestigious group of scholars from 700 two-year colleges across the nation and abroad.

In addition, Theta Xi is one of the most respected organizations on the East Central Junior College campus, and I believe that the activities and fellowship you would enjoy as a member would be a valuable addition to your college experience.

Again, I commend you on your academic achievement, and I congratulate you on being invited to join Phi Theta Kappa. Representatives from Theta Xi will be in touch with you soon concerning your presence at the orientation meeting. I hope that I will soon see your name on the list of new initiates of Phi Theta Kappa!

Sincerely,

Eddie M. Smith

Dr. Eddie M. Smith
President



EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

DECATUR, MISSISSIPPI 39327

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

601-635-2111

April 24, 1992



Dear Mr. Curley:

On behalf of the students, administration, faculty, and staff of East Central Community College in Decatur, Mississippi, I want to thank you for the involvement of USA TODAY in the AACJC/Phi Theta Kappa/USA TODAY Academic All-American recognition program. We at East Central were fortunate in that a student from our college, Miss Tam Cooper, was selected as one of the First Team winners.

The value of the coverage and support provided by USA TODAY for the Academic All-American program is immeasurable. The recognition of excellence as provided for our two-year colleges by USA TODAY will definitely help to further develop the positive image that our community, junior, and technical colleges deserve.

We certainly hope that USA TODAY will remain a strong partner in the Academic All-American recognition program.

Thank you! Thank you!

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Eddie M. Smith".

Eddie M. Smith
President

EMS:las

bcc: Dr. David R. Pierce
Mr. Rod Risley
Miss Tam Cooper
Mrs. Ann Burkes
Dr. Shelby Harris



EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

DECATUR, MISSISSIPPI 39327

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

601-635-2111

April 24, 1992

Ms. Pat Olsen
[REDACTED]

Dear Ms. Olsen:

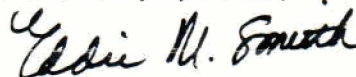
On behalf of the students, administration, faculty, and staff of East Central Community College in Decatur, Mississippi, I want to thank you for including the interview of one of the first team AACJC/Phi Theta Kappa/USA TODAY Academic All-American winners on your Tuesday, April 14, 1992, broadcast of CBS THIS MORNING.

I know that you receive far more requests for interviews than you can accommodate. We greatly appreciate the time and attention that you gave to our Academic All-Americans and to our nation's two-year colleges.

We certainly hope that you will continue to highlight the noteworthy accomplishments of our community, junior, and technical college students in the future.

Thank you again for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,



Eddie M. Smith
President

EMS:las

bcc: Dr. David R. Pierce
Mr. Rod Risley
Miss Tam Cooper
Mrs. Ann Burkes
Dr. Shelby Harris





PHI THETA KAPPA

INTERNATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY OF THE TWO-YEAR COLLEGE

HEADQUARTERS

April 20, 1992

[REDACTED] College

Dear President Smith,

Thank you for participating in the AACJC/Phi Theta Kappa/USA TODAY Academic All-American Team Competition. Your participation provides an opportunity for your institution and your members to capture international media attention. This year's recognition which focused on the top 60 students selected to comprise the Academic All-American Teams effectively spotlighted the quality programming, emphasizes on community service and opportunities for academic excellence provided in our two-year colleges.

We have enclosed a certificate for presentation to your institution's Academic All-American Team nominee. We wish for all of our almost 400 nominees to receive the recognition they so richly deserve. Please note that you are to sign the certificate in the space provided.

We have also enclosed a copy of the Monday, April 13 edition of USA TODAY. USA TODAY provided detailed coverage in their Lifestyle Section of all twenty First Team winners and recognition for the twenty Second and twenty Third Team winners. Pat Ordovensky, Education Writer, USA TODAY, felt there was even more to the story! He chose Jeannie Blanton, First Team winner and her college, Valencia Community College, for a separate feature on the quality education offered by our community, technical and junior colleges. Jeannie is currently enrolled at Valencia Community College with two of her three daughters, both of whom compete to keep up with Mom's 4.0 average!

CBS again chose to feature the Academic All-American Team Competition on CBS THIS MORNING. Jeannie Blanton represented Valencia Community College in the Monday, April 16 segment, which aired across the United States. The segment provided an invaluable endorsement of the quality programming and competitive product of our two-year colleges.

cc: Dr. Phil Sutphin
Dr. Gerald White
Mrs. Ann Burkes
Dr. Shelby Harris

We would appreciate your taking the opportunity to write Tom Curley, President, USA TODAY, and Pat Olsen, Producer of CBS THIS MORNING, to thank them for the coverage and support provided the Academic All-American Team program at the following addresses:


Mr. Tom Curley
President
USA TODAY
1000 Wilson Blvd
Arlington, VA 22209

Pat Olsen
Producer and Booking
CBS THIS MORNING
524 W. 57th Street
New York, NY 10019

We are pleased to announce two important changes in the nomination process for the 1993 Academic Team Competition. Our most common "constructive criticism" has been that you wish to nominate students from each campus of your college. Therefore, each campus of all AACJC member institutions will now be eligible to nominate two students regardless of separate AACJC memberships.

President Smith, we certainly hope that this September when you receive nomination materials for the 1993 competition, you will again seize the opportunity to broadcast the quality education afforded by community, technical and junior colleges.

Sincerely yours,


Rod A. Risley
Executive Director

Enclosures






EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

DECATUR, MISSISSIPPI 39327

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

601-635-2111

December 23, 1992


Dear Mr. Haywood:

Thank you for your wonderful letter of December 19, 1992. It was indeed a pleasure and a privilege for me to learn of your past association with ECJC.

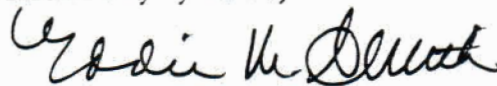
We shall cherish the photograph of our "Miss Una". She is certainly one of my favorites and has been since I first became acquainted with her when I was a student at East Central in the early 1960's.

I do sincerely hope that you will include a visit to East Central in your future plans. I want to meet you and to learn more about your days here and beyond.

Thank you again for your letter and the photograph. Your thoughtfulness is greatly appreciated.

With best regards, I am

Sincerely yours,



Eddie M. Smith
President

EMS:las

bcc: Mr. Ovid Vickers
Mrs. Ann Burkes (Archives file)

Christian Life Crusade

Chester E. Swor
Director

Dr. Smith, President,
East Central Junior College,
Decatur, Mississippi.

Dear Dr. Smith:

A special dividend of pleasure in my days in Decatur came in the privilege of meeting you and your family. Your presence and participation in the services and your cordiality in arranging a time for me to meet with some students and faculty members on Thursday impressed me of your desire to use your gifted life to the limit in service, particularly to our young people. I enjoyed greatly your times at the console of the organ.

I am about to leave for a round of college appointments in Texas, Oklahoma, and Tennessee with a three-day period at Ole Miss "sandwiched" into the remaining weeks of November. But often along the way of those appointments I shall remember my Decatur days and the privilege of association with students and faculty members of East Central.

With every good wish to you personally for continuing success and happiness in your presidency there, I am

Most cordially,

Chester E. Swor
Chester E. Swor

East Central Junior College

L. O. TODD, PRESIDENT

Decatur, Mississippi

May 23, 1940

Mr. F. M. Cross
Decatur
Mississippi

Dear Mr. Cross:

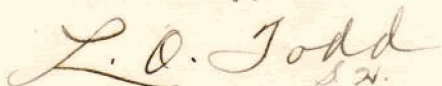
This is a formal notification of your nomination and election to the faculty of East Central Junior College for the year 1940-41.

No disposition is anticipated this time on salaries other than that the Board approved a recommendation for a five per cent increase per annum for men with M. A. degrees below \$1325 and a five per cent increase per annum for women below \$1250, provided they meet all educational and other requirements if they have M. A. degrees. The increase is not to run the total above these figures in any event.

The Board approved that as a matter of general policy, the spirit of recommendations set out in Bulletin Number One, "The Improvement of Instruction," be incorporated as a part of the contract. This includes specifically that the minimum scholastic requirements be met as promptly as possible. Acceptance of this appointment presumes the acceptance in full of the policies of that bulletin. Unless I am notified to the contrary promptly, I will consider your appointment accepted.

Personally, I appreciate the association with you and other faculty members during the year and trust that we will have a pleasant and profitable session together next year.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "L. O. Todd". Below the signature, the number "52" is written.

L. O. Todd, President

LOT:sh

Philadelphia Public Schools

L. O. TODD, SUPERINTENDENT
PHILADELPHIA, MISSISSIPPI

June 2, 1934

Mr. Frank Cross
Forest, Mississippi

Dear Mr. Cross:

I nominated you yesterday to a position in the faculty of the Junior College and you were elected.

I have figured a good deal on the arrangement we have discussed in chemistry. As I see the situation now, we cannot offer second year chemistry. I think that we shall offer two sections of four hour chemistry to Freshmen and two or three sections of three hour work. That is directed by the schedule and to my mind is educationally sound. We can require the four hour course of those going further. The other course will be for orientation purposes.

If you want any changes in the catalog let me have them in writing at once.

Will you indicate it in writing that you accept the above.

Yours truly,


Superintendent-elect

P. S. No definite work was done as to salaries. It is not possible to do that now. It would in no respect be lower than now. We have every desire to raise salaries and to more nearly equalize them.

East Central Junior College

L. O. TODD, PRESIDENT

Decatur, Mississippi

May 8, 1942

Mr. Frank Cross
Decatur
Mississippi

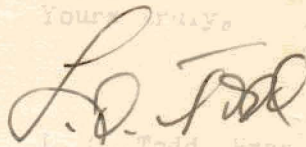
Dear Mr. Cross:

This is formal notification of your election by the Board of Trustees of East Central Junior College for work in the 1942-43 session. Your salary will be \$1500.00 for nine months.

All elections were made subject to this provision: "No person is to get an increase in salary or to be continued after the 1941-42 session unless he or she makes a maximum additional credits if below a graduate major in the major fraction of teaching field." Less to whom this appointment is to be governed accordingly.

I must have in writing an acceptance of this appointment, subject to the above conditions, by the time school is out.

Yours truly,



L. O. Todd, President

PIGGLY WIGGLY CORPORATION

Post Office Box 149

JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA 32201

G.C. BRANNON
SPECIAL CONSULTANT

September 16, 1987

Dear Friends at E.C.J.C.,

I was so saddened to receive the belated article of Mrs. Nellie Neill Cross's passing.

She was one of the dearest friends I ever knew and it was to her that I owe my being an alumni of E.C.J.C.

When she was offered the position as Voice and Music Instructor at E.C.J.C. under President L.O. Todd she asked that I be offered a scholarship to serve as her accompanist, play for gym classes. 1934 - 36 were two wonderful years as a student (Elizabeth Bustin) from Meridian, Mississippi - One of the highlights

PIGGLY WIGGLY CORPORATION

POST OFFICE BOX 149

JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA 32201

G.C. BRANNON
SPECIAL CONSULTANT

- 2 -

of my being in Decatur was the
privilege of composing The Alma
Mater with Miss Marguerite Dacey.

From Decatur I was privileged
to attend State Teachers College in
Hattiesburg and again privileged
to serve - (on scholarship) as
the Vesper Choir accompanist
and again play for Sym
Classes - - graduating in 1938
and teaching in Quitman - 38-41-

41-42 Jones Co. Jr. College - Ellisville - to Drew Miss.
42-45: returning home to Meridian to teach in
Meridian Jr. College - and nurse my mother
and father - losing them eleven months apart -
To fulfill my mother's dream I returned to
Miss. Southern in 1948 to receive my Masters -
and then I was privileged to teach there 1949-50-

PIGGLY WIGGLY CORPORATION

POST OFFICE BOX 149

JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA 32201

G.C. BRANNON
SPECIAL CONSULTANT

3) marrying in June, 1950 and moving to Jacksonville, Fla. in 1951 where I've lived for thirty - six years - Mr. Brannon died in 1984 but I continue to remain here for our only child Nancy now has her own family - so I am blessed in so many ways -

I am sorry to have bored you with so many details but I haven't been able to find out whether Mr. Cross is still living and knowing Rev. and Mrs. Neill were deceased and not knowing the Crosses' only daughter Caroline's address I was at a loss to "follow through".

Thanks for being so kind as to "listen" - Please know that I wish for EJC God's richest blessings and it is my prayer that many love offerings will be sent to the Nellie Neill Cross Music Scholarship. Elizabeth Brannon

Monday Night

My dear Arno and Ruth,

Thank you so much for your nice letter, Arno, and for the explanation of the Scholarship to be established in honor of Pat. That really did touch my heart. You know Pat loved all of you fellows, good, bad, or both. I think he would have appreciated these remembrances more than anything which has ever been done for him, and God bless every one of you having a part in it.

You did not tell me who the cashier was so I'm just having to mail this check to you, and you please get it to the right person. Be sure to drop me a card and let me know where and to whom the funds should be sent. I don't want you to "spread" this, just you and Ruth, and I will tell Edison.

This check is my remembrance of Pat's birthday which is December 3rd. He would have been 91 if he had lived.

Way back in 1928, I took out a life insurance policy, and of course, made Pat the beneficiary. As it was due any time I decided to cash it in and put it in the bank where it could be spent before I die. Pat was the last one in his immediate family and I am the last in mine. We do have a

branch of nieces and nephews though, and
they all live right here in Dupelo and are
real good to "look after" me. So after
getting your letter telling me about the Schel-
ship, it flashed into my mind, "I will
give Pat a real birthday gift which can ~~hon~~
honor him, and he will get my little in-
surance after all. So each year I can give
him a birthday until the little insurance
is gone. This has made me happy, Arno,
I must stop as this hour is late. I
have not talked with you, Ruth, in
this letter but I needed to get on with this
letter because Dec 3rd is just around the
corner. If you all ever get to Dupelo,
we are easy to find. This area is a part
of old Traceway which is the main office
area. The place is growing awfully fast,
but under the circumstances, I suppose it
is better that we sold our house and
moved out here - You buy a Life's Estate,
here, can't buy a lot but it is safe
and there is a nursing home connected
with it in case I should ever be
put in one.

Thank you dear, dear people for what you
have done in Pat's memory - My love to you both,
Annie Wilson

EAST CENTRAL JUNIOR COLLEGE

DECATUR, MISSISSIPPI 39327

OFFICE OF THE DEAN OF INSTRUCTION

601-635-2111

MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. Eddie M. Smith, President

FROM: Dr. Brad J. Tucker, Dean of Instruction *B.J.*

SUBJECT: Use of the Conference Room in Newton Hall
on Second Floor

DATE: November 11, 1987

The small conference room at the head of the stairs in Newton Hall has been used primarily for faculty committee meetings and as a seminar room for small student groups such as honors classes. I have been approached by the Phi Theta Kappa sponsors for permission to hang certain pictures and memorabilia in the room. They do not ask for the room as a meeting place but as a place to display materials like plaques, pictures and certificates. Their request would not hinder present uses of the room if granted.

I therefore recommend that we designate the room as the "Honors Conference Room" and add pictures of Scholar's Bowl winners, Phi Theta Kappa awards, and certificates or plaques that would promote academic excellence.

BJT/snh

APPROVED

Eddie M. Smith

Dr. Eddie M. Smith, President

Copies sent to: Mrs. Burkes ✓
Mr. Vickers
Dr. Harris
Dr. Ethridge

11-11-87
Date



Dr. Brad J. Tucker
Dean of Instruction
East Central Community College
Decatur, Mississippi 39327

Dear Dr. Tucker,

May I please take this opportunity of thanking you and your associates for the exceptional courtesies shown me at the 1989 Homecoming as a member of the 1939 State Championship Football team.

The scope and execution of the entire program leave me lacking in superlatives to describe it, and I can honestly say it was one of the most enjoyable days I have ever experienced. I shall always treasure the plaque that was presented to each member of the 1939 Football Team.

I congratulate you and thank you most heartily for the outstanding job that you did in getting so many of the 1939 Football Team members together and making this "once in a lifetime" event possible.

Again, my sincere wish for everything that is good for you and The East Central Community College.

Sincerely yours,
Robert Paul Hamble
Colonel, U.S. Air Force - Retired



STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Richard A. Boyd, Ed.D., State Superintendent of Education
Suite 501 Sillers Office Building • P.O. Box 771 • Jackson, Mississippi 39205-0771 • (601) 359-3513

December 28, 1989

Dr. Eddie Smith, President
East Central Community College
PO Box 129
Decatur, Mississippi 39327

Dear Eddie:

On this, my last day in this office, I want to tell you how much I have enjoyed working with you over these past five-plus years. I think we have much to be proud of because of the improving educational environment in Mississippi, and that has come about because the education community has stuck together.

Not once in my tenure here did I hear someone from one of the three levels of education--elementary/secondary, community/junior colleges or four-year universities--make negative statements about the others. That is a remarkable thing to be able to say, but I think it speaks well of the calibre of people like yourself who are at the helm of this state's major institutions.

I believe that we have made substantial gains in working together, and one of my biggest regrets in leaving is that I will not be a part of "Project 95," which shows promise of causing wonderful things to happen in the future. I know you will keep its programs moving smoothly.

Even though I will be many miles away, I leave a part of my heart in Mississippi. One does not put in this many years in a meaningful endeavor and then simply walk away without leaving a part of one's self behind. Among my greatest memories are the contacts I had with you, and I will be watching Mississippi's educational progress from afar. I wish you the best of good fortune.

Farewell.

Sincerely,

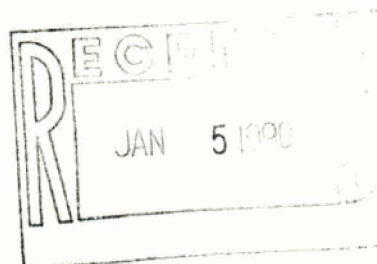
Dick

Richard A. Boyd
State Superintendent of Education

RAB/lc

c: Dr. George Moody

cc: Mr. Henry B. Hudspeth
Dr. Brad Tucker
Library (Archives)



January 23, 1989

Eddie M. Smith, President
East Central Community College
Decatur, MS 39327

Dear Dr. Smith,

I would like to express by sincerest appreciation to you and my fellow board members for all of your prayers and concern during my illness. It is with much regret but with the fondest memories that I resign my position from the Board of Trustees of East Central Community College.

We appreciate the invitation to the Trustees' luncheon on February 14, 1989. However, due to medical reasons we will be unable to attend.

My thoughts will be with you and the Board as you all continue to do an excellent job in serving East Central Community College.

Sincerely yours,

Pat McDonald

Pat McDonald

*Chester Clark to deliver
plaque. Ems talks w/
Mrs. McDonald on 11/17/89.*

*Ems
11-17-89*

DEC 23 1989

Mrs. Burkes

10/06/94

Dr. Smith,

I promised you at Cindy's beautiful reception that I would mail you a copy of her Quinterwhite essay. Perhaps after reading it you will better understand what an impact ECCC had upon her life. I'm sure there are many phases of those two years even Cindy doesn't realize the importance of yet.

Please pass this along to Dr. Harris + Mrs. Burkes since they are advisors.

Once again, with deepest appreciation, THANK YOU and all Cindy's Teachers for two impressionable, rewarding years in her life. The benefits will last a lifetime.

Gratefully yours,
Patty Callahan

cc: Dr. Sutphin
Mrs. Burkes
Dr. Harris
EMS 10/7/94

GUISTWHITE SCHOLAR PROGRAM
APPLICANT'S ESSAY FORM

Guistwhite Scholar applicants are required to submit an informal essay of 500 words or less describing how their educational experience in the two-year college will prepare them to accomplish their lifetime goals and objectives.

NOTE: Please type essay using only the front and back of this sheet. It is permissible to submit essay on another sheet attached to this essay form. Essay must be 500 words or less.

While at East Central Community College, I was deeply involved in classes, organizations, and activities. All of which will help me accomplish my goals and objectives. My experiences in these areas have enlightened me about new ideas concerning both continuing my education and succeeding in my career.

I have been prepared by my experiences to fulfill my goal of becoming a teacher. I have been prepared by being given the information and learning I need to continue my education. Through my classes I have learned how to study effectively. Also, through working with my classmates out of class, I have learned how to communicate to others what I had gained studying. The ability to effectively communicate plus the information I have gained through my classes, can be used in my teaching career. I hope to be able to teach mathematics effectively, but also kindle an interest in other areas of study.

Since I plan to complete my degree in secondary (math) education, my experiences at East Central Community College have given me many examples that I can follow in my career. From the example of my teachers I learned that I will have to be willing to help students as much as possible. It was exceedingly helpful to me to be able to go to my teachers at any time for helpful instruction. Class-time was always a time to receive instruction, but I was most impressed by my teachers with their willingness to help students in their office and preparation time. I hope to incorporate their caring and most helpful practice into my own teaching method.

While at East Central Community College, I was interested to learn in one of my classes that it is an accepted fact that if a person is treated a certain way

(continue on reverse side)

Applicant's Signature

Cindy Callahan

Date

5/25/94

for a prolonged period of time, the person will soon adopt the thoughts and the attitude corresponding with the way in which he/she was treated. At East Central I observed this self-fulfilling prophesy carried out in many of my classes. Many discipline problems were eliminated by the teachers by treating the students with the respect that they expected in return. Within two weeks the class was settled with no hint of a problem. This was extremely interesting to me being a white female with the goal of teaching mathematics in Mississippi's public schools. This was a different approach than what I had seen in high school, but it won both my admiration and approval.

During my two-year experience at East Central, I participated in all of the honors programs offered. In those classes it was required that we as students frequently compose essays and always be prepared for discussion. My experiences in these classes helped me to gain the communicating abilities that I need to more effectively interact in society and the work place.

I believe that all of these experiences at East Central Community College have prepared me to continue my education and to achieve the goals that I have set for myself. I feel privileged to have attended a two-year college with a faculty so ready to help the students in any situation. Through their classes and friendships I have gained many ideas and guidelines for my own classroom when I begin to teach. I am greatly indebted to East Central Community College for the experiences I have gained. They will definitely help me to accomplish my lifetime goals and objectives.

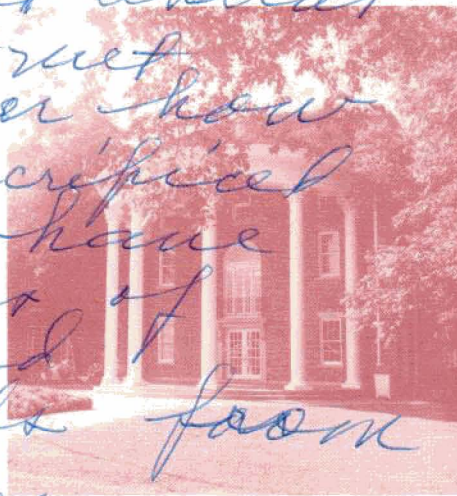


HINDS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

10 - 13 - 91

Dear Mr. Smith,

Mr. McKenzie did not mention several tidbits that I gave him and I don't know his reasons but I told him that it was my experience at East Central that helped me to decide on working in a junior college for a life career. I could not have gone to college if there had not been an East Central. My eyes still get wet when I remember how Mom & Dad sacrificed to send me. I have great memories of my teachers and student friends from Decatur.



I cherish a letter from
Roma De Walton who
read the column and
reminded me of how I
helped her in chemistry
under Mr. Frank Cross,
one of my wonderfully good
teachers & memories.

I have not forgotten
the value of East Central
even if I have transferred
most of my attention to Hinds.

May God bless you and
your colleagues as you
continue to render a
priceless service to
modest-meaning youngsters.

Best regards,

T. T. Beemon

Dr. Edla M. Smith, President
East Central Community College
Decatur, MS 39327

Dear Dr. Smith:

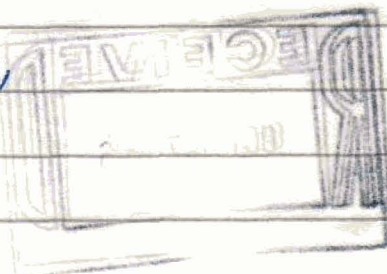
I hope you can read my writing, considering
my poor eyesight and delay.

Thanks, very much, for the nice letter
about. I appreciate your thoughtfulness.

My deep sorrow goes out to you and
the other ECCC folks over the two recent
tragedies.

I am favorably impressed with Mr.
Larry Hogue. My voice is weak and he
had a hard time understanding me, but I
will help in some way after the first of
the year.

Sincerely yours,
Leon Trubanks





CHARLIE D. BRACKEEN
BRIGADIER GENERAL
ASSISTANT ADJUTANT GENERAL

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
MILITARY DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
JACKSON

March 20, 1989

Dr. Eddie M. Smith
East Central Community College
Decatur, Mississippi 39327

Dear Dr. Smith:


Let me express my appreciation to you for your support for my induction into the NJCAA Hall of Fame.

I appreciate so much your support in financing my picture being placed in the program for the Mississippi High School State Tournament and the program at the National Tournament.

I feel really honored and privileged to have had an opportunity to attend East Central Junior College. It has meant so much to me through out my career.

Charlotte and I would like to say thank you for making my induction into the NJCAA Hall of Fame a success.

Sincerely,


Charlie D. Brackeen
Brigadier General, MSARNG
Assistant Adjutant General

cc: Dr. Brad Tucker

Dr. Eddie M. Smith, President
East Central Community College
Decatur, Miss. 39327

Dear Dr. Smith:

Thank you for another enjoyable visit to so many campus activities through the lively pages Of the 1989 Yearbook recently received from you.

I congratulate you and your able co-workers on all the successful achievements in the academic and related interests, as well as the renewing of the physical image . As the book has demonstrated hard work has brought results. I am glad you can proudly say with emphasis, "Look at Us Now".

I hope your vision for expanding goals each year will continue to be supported by exceptional and dedicated faculty, and students who are searching for a happier and more resourceful life than was available to them without the training at East Central Community College.

Thank you for all the good and interesting news you have so generously shared with me during the past four years.

Sincerely yours,

Ethel Burton



7

Dr. Eddie M. Smith, President
East Central Community College
Decatur, Miss.

Dear Dr. Smith:

Thank you for your continual thoughtfulness in sending me the school yearbook 1990 in May, and more recently the Athletic Pass and Football schedule.

Sorry about the circumstances which delayed my thanks for the unusual yearbook. I have spent several hours enjoying the pictures and related comments. I think the school spirit has been well portrayed throughout the school year with an excellent balance of fun and sports events with academic goals and achievements.

In addition to the above, I have enjoyed two publications of The Warrior. There I was pleasantly informed in more details about so many alumni, faculty and the schools renovation progress.

My special congratulations to you, and all the faculty working with you who received deserved recognition.

May this school year bring many rewarding experiences to you, the faculty and students.

Sincerely,

Ethel Burton

cc: Dr. Eddie M. Smith
Mr. Ovid Vickers
Mr. Bubby Johnston
Mrs. Carol Vickers
Dr. Brad Tucker

Original: Archives files (Library)

Decatur, Miss
Dec. 14, 1991

Dr. Eddie M. Smith
East Central Community College
Decatur, Miss.

Dear Dr. Smith

This gift to ECC is a memorial ~~to~~
Miss Sadie Bryant and in
honor of Mr. James Mosley, the
first Band Director at East
Central Junior College. I'm doing
this because of my love for the
College and of my appreciation
for the wonderful work you are
doing for the College.

I hope appreciated you being
so thoughtful of me by sending
me the dear Bertha and so many
imitations even though I was
so often unable to attend. It has
meant so much to me to have
you and Charlotte as my good
neighbors. I'm wishing you a
Happy Christmas and a further
wonderful new year.

Sincerely,
Erma Lee Barber

EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

DECATUR, MISSISSIPPI 39327

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

601-635-2111

December 16, 1991

Miss Erma Lee Barber

Dear Miss Barber:

Thank you for your very sweet and kind letter of December 14, 1991. And, thank you for your generous tax-deductible gift of one hundred dollars given in memory of Miss Gladys Bryant and in honor of Mr. James Mosley. Your gift will be deposited in the Huff Auditorium Refurbishing Fund.

We at East Central greatly appreciate your continued loyalty and support. You are a very important member of the East Central Community College family.

Best wishes for an enjoyable Christmas season. And, I hope that you will have a happy new year.

With best personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

Eddie M. Smith
President

EMS:las



[REDACTED]

19 DEC 1992

Mr. Eddie Smith, President
East Central Junior College
Decatur, MS 39327


Dear Mr. Smith:

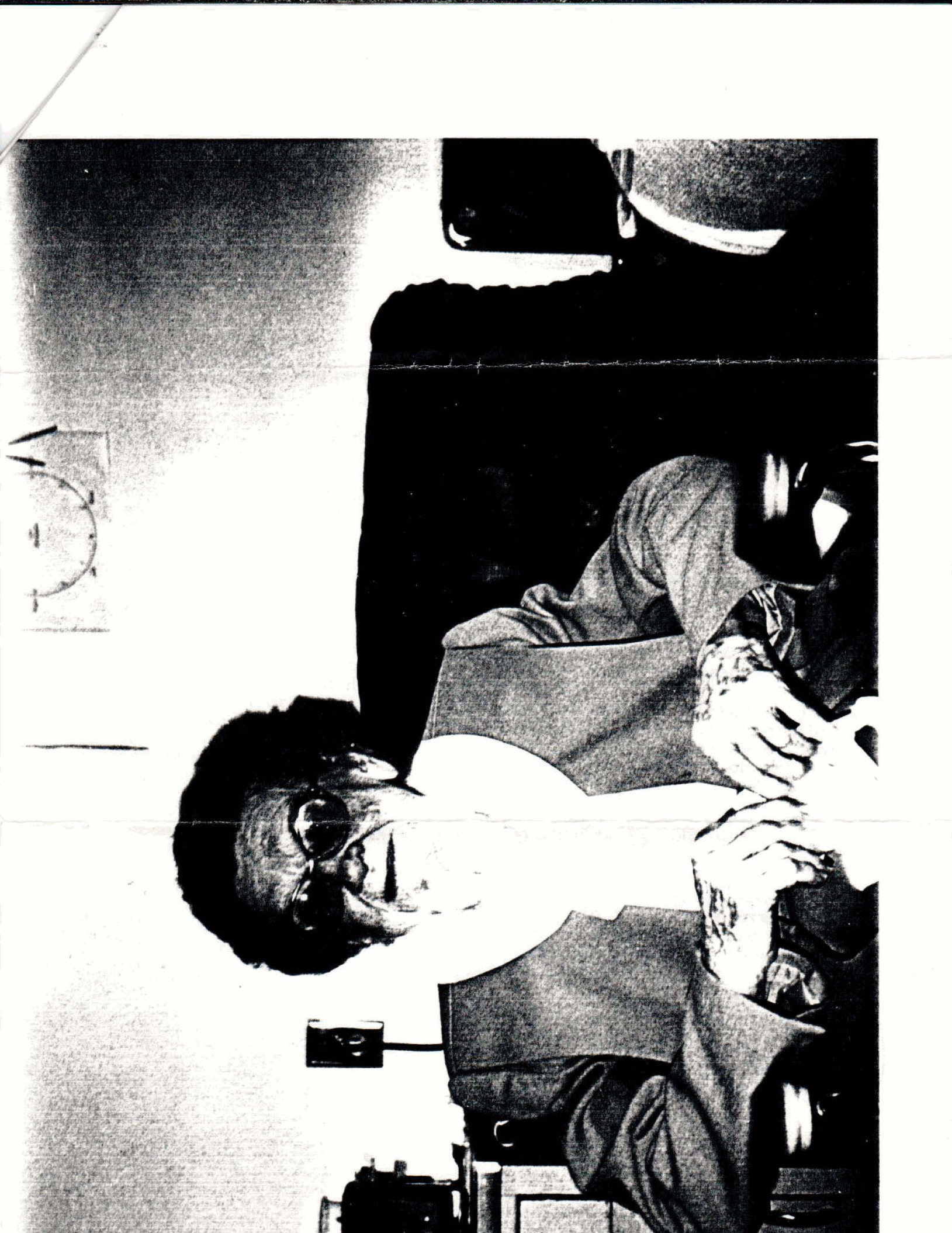
A hundred years ago, not quite, I joined the faculty at ECJC. At the tender age of twenty-three, lacking two months, I marveled at the wisdom and experience of my older colleagues. For eight years I gleaned from founding faculty Stella Bayliss Newsome and Janie Huff Sullivan and from faculty precursor Una Harris, the art of excellent teaching. Lindsey Ogletree Todd was a master teacher in administration and Arno Vincent a classic example of "how not to do it." Leaving ECJC in 1958 for an administrative/teaching post at Tulane, followed by similar positions at Mercer, Skidmore, and Vanderbilt from which I retired at Vice Chancellor, I thrived for thirty-five years as an administrator/teacher. In all those years I never met, relatively, anyone or any situation not first encountered at ECJC.

Since 1958 I have maintained loose contact with my very first professional colleagues, though many are now dead. Among my favorites is Una Harris, and I hear from her that you are among her favorites. With East Tennessee family interests, I occasionally find myself in Johnson City and often call upon Una. On one such occasion, last September, I called on Una seven days before her 92nd birthday. She had just returned from church to her nursing home quarters, and I photographed her in good form, telling her that I would send one snapshot to you, who she greatly admires. She covets receipt of the Tom-Tom, which she "sponsored" for many years, and of the Wo-He-Lo, which I sponsored before she.

The next time I am in Decatur I hope that I shall have the opportunity for a brief visit with you. In that place are many happy memories, including marrying the 1954 May Queen and the birth of my two eldest children, one now a successful lawyer and the other a successful motion picture producer.

Yours truly,


William T. Haywood



EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

DECATUR, MISSISSIPPI 39327

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

601-635-2111

April 2, 1996

Ms. Ethel Burton

15

Dear Ms. Burton:

Thank you for your letter of March 29, 1996. It is always so good to hear from you.

I'm glad that you are enjoying your new home in Montevallo. I am certain that you enjoy being close to your sister.

We at East Central greatly appreciate the yearbooks that you have sent us. They have been placed in the College library for future use and reference.

Best wishes and please let us hear from you often.

With best personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours,



Eddie M. Smith
President

EMS:las

cc: Mrs. Ann Burkes ✓

Dr. Eddie M. Smith, President
East Central Community College
Decatur, Ms 39327

Dear Dr. Smith:

Thank you for the recent invitation to the presentation of The Music Man. It implies a relaxing performance to look forward to enjoying. This is also a reminder of your unusual thoughtfulness in keeping me updated on school activities for many years.

Thank you for arousing excitement and pleasant memories when and where unforgettable ties of friendship grew in difficult times. This stimulation of thoughts has often made me feel like being a part of the audience.

With the thought and plans to move from my home in Montgomery was the decision of what to do with the Yearbooks that had meant so much to me. I could only foresee storage here and eventually throw away. There are no young people here to enjoy them as some did in Montgomery. After the call from Mr. Vickers the thought came to me, that you better than anyone would know who would like a worn copy replaced or otherwise. When I finish unpacking I will return those I did not send.

I am very grateful for many copies of The Warrior magazine which I have kept because there are many references to people who were closely associated with me in school work. The goals attained with outstanding results. Some expected, some with wonder and amazement, personal home life, retirement- all invaluable on what happened to So and So.

This move to my sisters home has proven to be a good choice.

Thank you for your continued thoughtfulness.

Sincerely,

Ethel Burton
Ethel Burton

cc: Mr. Vickers

Miss [unclear]

How One College Serves Five Counties

L. O. TODD

EAST CENTRAL JUNIOR COLLEGE, Mississippi, has been experimenting with the idea of coordinating and stimulating existing institutions and action agencies in developing better community activities in its area.

The college is located in a rural area and is supported by five counties. These have a joint population of about 125,000 and an area of 3,000 square miles. The college owes as much in responsibility to the community most remote from its site as to the one in which it is located, and it obviously would require a very large force to render direct service to the various communities of the five-county area. However, in the area of the college are the church groups, the educational and action agencies of the Department of Agriculture, the Farm Bureau, the schools, the county health units, etc. In addition, there are the service clubs and other groups organized to render some kind of community service. These various agencies have considerable resources in the form of personnel through which they can get to the people. These agencies are adequate for the improvement of the community life if they see the relationship between their work and if they are stimulated to full activity. To accomplish these two aims has been one of the projects of East Central Junior College.

When the college entered on this ac-

tivity, it found available in each one of the counties an Agricultural Coordinating Council, made up of agricultural and health workers. These councils were in varying stages of activity. Each one had for its professed object the development by each group of workers of an understanding of the work of the other.

The Agricultural Coordinating Councils, even though they should be active, could have only limited usefulness, because of their limited membership. The junior college proposed, therefore, that they be enlarged to include representatives of business, religion, and education. This was done in each of the five counties of the area, and then a Coordinating Council of these five counties was established, with the president of East Central Junior College as the chairman.

So much for the background of the idea. Now to the part the college has had.

The Newton County Coordinating Council, after the junior college interested itself in it, decided that it would make studies of the basic needs of the county and recommend action. Committees on agriculture, religion, education, health, and business were appointed. On each one of the committees were workers from various groups in the council. Significant studies were made.

For example, the Committee on Agriculture, with the assistance of the Soil Conservation Service, made a study of land use capability. It reported on the total number of acres available in the county in the various

L. O. Todd is president of East Central Junior College, Mississippi. Dr. Todd is also president of the Southern Association of Junior Colleges. He received his B.S. degree at George Peabody College for Teachers, his M.A. at Columbia University, and returned to Peabody for his Ph.D.

classes of land—what it was being used for at the time and what it should be used for. It was pointed out that vast areas of class I, II, and III land were not in use at all for row crops, whereas they are the kinds of land that should be utilized for these crops. On the other hand, many thousands of acres of the land least suitable for row crops were being so utilized. The Committee on Agriculture pointed out that the best use for these lands was to put them in timber and pastures. It was decided that this should be one of the major activities of the Coordinating Council.

Conservation of the land in general was seen to be a problem that concerned every group and agency in the county because, in this agricultural county, conservation and the right use of the land is the basis of the economic life of the people, and consequently, the source of income for the support of schools, churches, and health agencies, and for the business activity of the county. Ministers came to see that not only did the churches have an interest in this problem because of the influence on the support of the church program, but involved also was the moral problem of conservation of the land for the present and future generations. Every other group found as compelling reasons for interesting themselves in the problem.

Through the work of the Council, other committees on education, business, religion, and health were stimulated to make long-range plans and recommendations. They found that many of their problems were common ones, and when they discovered this, the various groups could and did pool their resources to bring about the needed changes.

For example, the Business Com-

mittee, headed by a banker, recommended that action be taken to establish a fire control district made up of the county to protect the timber lands. He was stimulated to do this because of the report of the Committee on Agriculture. He was interested, with his committee, in the matter of increasing the income of the people. The schools became interested in promoting community meetings in the various districts. It is estimated that a majority of the adult population, as well as most of the children, attended the meetings, at which time educational work by the State Forestry Service, State Extension Service, and local agricultural workers attempted to make the people conscious of the means of controlling fire and also to get them interested in having a tax levy put on to establish a fire control district. The junior college could not have done all of this work with its own facilities and with its personnel, but because it stimulated interest on the part of other people, it was able to bring in a fine group and to reach a very large number of people. The end result was the establishment of a fire control district in one of the few counties that accepted the provisions of recent acts of the Legislature to this effect.

One of the results of the activities of the Coordinating Council was the realization that a chief problem was the development of trained rural community leadership in an area where too many people have been leaving rather small farms to go into the surrounding towns and cities to live. It is a question of both information and inspiration. It was proposed that community leaders be gotten together, and, as a result, in the summers of 1944 and 1945 there were held at the junior college three-day Community Leadership In-

stitutes, at which time approximately 300 community leaders, both women and men, from the five-county area came in to discuss the goals that had been established by the Coordinating Councils and to set up additional ones for themselves. Discussion groups in the major areas of community life were held: Agriculture, home making, health, education, and religion. We were able to get as discussion leaders for the panels the outstanding leadership of the state. For example, for discussion of the problems of agriculture we had the director of the experiment station, the director of extension, the chief conservationist of the Soil Conservation Service, the state administrator of the AAA, and other people with as responsible positions in the field. The chairman of the State Highway Commission discussed the problem of rural roads, and people of equal rank in other fields came to discuss the problems with the people, because evidently they felt that this was an excellent opportunity for them to get their own work done. An outstanding feature was an inspirational religious service that closed the Institute each year. Clergymen of nationwide reputation came to speak.

It is considered that the Institutes were highly successful. They brought

together the best available information in various fields of community activity, and the inspiration that was gained from the study of these problems and from association was undoubtedly of much value. The majority of the participants were rural men and women to whom the three days were a fine outing. They have expressed the desire that the work be continued from year to year.

In addition to the Leadership Institute, there have been many meetings of individual groups. There was a one-day meeting of rural pastors, devoted to a study of the problems relating to the social and economic needs of the area. Numerous meetings for agricultural groups of the area and state have been stimulated to be held at the college, and also for health and educational groups. In 1944 a county-wide Thanksgiving service was held that brought together all the high school children of Newton County and about 2,500 adults from the surrounding area.

Our experience with this type of activity leads us to believe that we can accomplish a great deal by stimulating the other existing agencies and groups to increased activity and to a realization of the oneness of the purposes that they have in developing all-round community life.

Mississippi Legislation Charts a Comprehensive Program

L. O. TODD

THE 1950 session of the Mississippi Legislature passed without a dissenting vote, at the behest of the Mississippi Junior College Association, a comprehensive statute that covers the entire range of junior college interests. It is the hope of its sponsors that the Act provides sufficient authority in a regulating body on the state level to afford sound expansion of junior colleges, sufficient flexibility to meet the varied and changing needs of the state, and sufficient authority and responsibility on the local level to continue Mississippi's long-time interest in the community nature of the junior colleges. It is believed the statement of functions will encourage individual colleges to realize the broader possibilities of service to their areas.

Mississippi, unlike almost every other state, has experienced a planned, orderly development of junior colleges. The 1928 statutes were considered in many quarters a model. In 1946 it was discovered that actually there was little state-wide control, administrative or legal, that could prevent the establishment of any number of junior colleges, regardless of the quality of proposed program and local needs, except perhaps the need to serve community pride.

The Mississippi Junior College

Association, when it saw the possibilities of an uncontrolled development, contemplated a limited revision of the then existing law to give full authority to the state to regulate the establishment of junior colleges. On further study and after consultation with trustees, legislators, school people, and other interested citizens, it undertook the comprehensive work herein reported. Study was made of the criteria of sound junior college legislation over the nation. The president of the Board of Trustees of East Central Junior College, a lawyer and former state senator, J. Knox Huff, contributed greatly to the technical as well as to many educational features of the Act. Extended conferences with legislative committees and individual legislators were required over a period of two months. The unanimous vote in both houses attests the judgment of the legislature to the work.

Salient features of the Act that should be of general interest will be discussed hereafter and direct quotations will be made from the Act.

State Regulation and Leadership

The first objective of the Act was to ensure a sound program for existing as well as for emerging colleges. This objective requires

a measure of state regulation and leadership through a professional body.

The Act, in Section 2, continued the professional Junior College Commission "consisting of seven members: namely, the State Superintendent of Education, chairman; the Chancellor of the University of Mississippi; the presidents of Mississippi State College, Mississippi State College for Women, and of three junior colleges, the latter three to be elected by the presidents of the Junior colleges of the state."

The commission "shall regulate the establishment and operation of junior colleges and shall particularly have the following powers and duties:

"(1) To make studies of the needs of the state and communities for junior college education." It should be borne in mind that Mississippi's development of an extensive program available at low cost to almost every white youth has come as the result of studies by people inside the state. It should be mentioned that two junior colleges for Negroes have been established recently. The need for a continuing survey of needs was named as the first power and duty of the Commission. There has never been a survey by outside people.

"(2) To divide the state into districts within which junior colleges may hereafter be established taking into consideration population, property valuation, transportation facilities, the proximity of other colleges, and other factors that contribute to a sound program of junior college education, and to designate the location of a junior college or junior colleges within the district." This power and duty given the Commission makes it

possible to guarantee to new colleges sufficient enrollment and tax base to enable them to have a diversified program.

"(3) To fix standards for junior colleges to qualify for junior college appropriations, with respect to training of teachers and administrators, physical plant and equipment, administrative organization, curriculum, income per student from local tax sources, enrollment, admission requirements, general tone of the institution and other factors that relate to the support and administration of junior colleges." The Act leaves the making of standards to the Commission. Past experience with statutory standards has proved that they lack flexibility. This leads to the elimination of specific standards from the Act.

(4) The Commission shall "certify annually to the State Board of Education the names of such junior colleges which are eligible for (state) funds." The Commission thus has authority annually to require a sound program through control of state funds.

Local Authority and Responsibility

Mississippians have believed all along that junior colleges are local institutions. The Act continues local control and puts additional emphasis on local responsibility for financial support. The Commission has authority to fix standards for income per student from local tax sources to be met before a local institution can qualify for state funds.

Local control is vested in trustees whose duties are "the general government of the junior college and directive of the administration thereof. Subject to the provisions of this Act, they shall have full power to do all things necessary

to the operation of the junior college." (Section 6). Thus while there is provision for state leadership, supervision, and inspection, administrative control is vested in independent boards of trustees.

Professional Local Administration

The Act in Sections 6 and 7 fixes responsibility and authority in professional leadership:

"The executive head of the college shall be the president of the college who shall be elected for a term not to exceed four years. The president shall have power to recommend to the board of trustees all teachers who shall be employed and he shall have authority to remove or suspend any member of the faculty subject to the approval of the trustees (and) to select, direct and discharge all employees who are not teachers."

Fiscal authority is given thus: the president "shall be the general manager of the fiscal and administrative affairs . . . and he shall be general custodian of the property of the institution."

Local Initiative and Popular Approval for Establishment

In Section 4 provision was made that the initiative for establishing a junior college will come from the county school board or boards if two or more counties desire to join in establishing a junior college, or from the trustees of a municipal separate school district. The board or boards, after they have declared their intent to establish a junior college, will furnish a certified copy of their resolution to that effect to the tax levying board or boards of the district. If the tax levying board or boards approve

the resolution of the trustees or school board or boards, the school boards and tax levying boards "shall jointly petition the Junior College Commission for the approval of the establishment of a junior college and to determine the location thereof." The petition shall be accompanied by the proposed plan of operation in accordance with standards promulgated by the Commission. If the Commission approves the petition, the tax levying boards or board "shall declare its intention to make a levy for the purpose of establishing and a levy for the support of the proposed junior college, and the levy or levies shall be made upon the taxable property unless a majority of the qualified electors vote against the proposition in an election called by the board to determine the matter on petition therefor, signed by twenty per cent of the qualified electors."

The petition for an election shall be filed within thirty days after the publication of the intent to levy the junior college tax.

Local Districts: Variety and Stability

The Act permits a variety of districts to suit the varied and changing needs of a state that is the most rural in the nation, yet has concentrations of urban and rural-urban population. Districts may be made up of "one or more counties or by one or more municipal separate school districts or by any combination of counties and municipal separate school districts

within the territorial limits of an area which has been designated by the Junior College Commission as a junior college district” (Section 4).

This Act brings forward this provision from previous statutes. It makes one significant correction to a previous glaring weakness. Previously, two or more counties were associations that could be terminated by failure of a county tax levying authority to levy the annual tax levy for junior college purposes. This Act confirms present districts and fixes the present tax rate as being the minimum one for the future except on recommendation of the trustees or a vote of the people called on a petition of twenty per cent of the qualified electors. (Section 11). This gives a comforting legal stability heretofore lacking.

This variety of districts in Mississippi has led to the development of one municipal junior college with a 6-4-4 organization; one five-county district that transports its students; two one-county districts, and eleven others with districts from three to seven counties that provide dormitory facilities at a cost of \$25.00 to \$27.00 per month for room and board. The provision of dormitory facilities appears to be necessary in a rural state. Twenty-five per cent of all high school graduates attend junior college. Inasmuch as thirteen of the Mississippi junior colleges grew out of county agricultural high schools, their organizations include

at present two or more high school grades.

The Act provides for a necessary flexibility in local control when two or more counties join in the establishment or support. (Section 5). There are six trustees in a one-county district. There may be six or two trustees in joining counties. If the county in which the college is located has a large share of the taxable wealth of the entire district, the county can have six trustees and by agreement the others can have two each. If the counties agree to have equal control, they can have six each. Mississippi has now both patterns and has found both necessary. In several districts the “home” county has the majority of the taxable wealth. That county protects its interest with the six to two ratio on the board of trustees of the college. Two districts, one with four counties and the other with five counties, have equal representation from each county. This results in a big board. Both patterns are deemed necessary; both work.

In a municipal separate district the trustees of the district are trustees of the college, for it is a part of the school program of the district. (Section 12).

The trustees of the county-district college are elected by the board of supervisors with the advice and consent of the county school board. In a municipal separate school district, the trustees are elected by the board of aldermen or city commission.

Stability of Local Control

The Act provides that trustees shall serve for five years. They shall be "discreet persons of good moral character, sufficient education and experience and of proven interest in public education." (Section 5). Previously the terms of all trustees expired at one time; their terms were four years.

Guaranteed Minimum Enrollment and Financial Support

It is generally admitted that junior colleges should not be established unless there is at least a minimum enrollment. It is also unwise to establish a junior college when there is a lack of finances to provide an adequate program because the district cannot provide taxable resources in sufficient amount without requiring excessive tax rates.

The realization of these facts led to the initiation of this Act. The Commission has the duty to set up standards for existing and emerging colleges covering "population—enrollment—property valuation—and income per student from local tax sources." (Section 2).

This poses one of the most difficult problems for the Commission. Mississippi has many poor and sparsely settled areas. Its problems are complicated by the racial situation.

Curricula

The Act directs in Section I, that four types of curricula be offered:

- (1) "Courses correlated to those of senior colleges and professional schools for students entering with 15 or more high school units.
- (2) "Courses on the semi-professional and vocational-technical level, preparatory for occupations such as agriculture, industry, business, homemaking.
- (3) "Courses and services to students regardless of their previous educational attainment or further academic plans"; and
- (4) "Courses or other acceptable educational measures that shall provide the general education necessary to individuals and groups which will tend to make them capable of living satisfactory lives consistent with the ideals of a democratic society."

Thus is stated the purpose of junior colleges and the groups to be served in them.

Articulation

Some may question the wisdom of fixing so much authority in the Commission with membership as constituted. There are four reasons behind this provision:

- (1) The first is that it makes provision for articulation with the secondary system through the state superintendent of education, and with the four year and professional colleges through the heads of state institutions of higher education.
- (2) It affords professional leadership chosen from officials who are responsible to the people for almost the entire public education program of the state.
- (3) It reserves a strong minority influence with junior college people.
- (4) The state Board of Education is an ex-officio board.

Tuition

The Mississippi Junior College Association reluctantly asked for authority to charge fees and tuition but is determined not to use

the authority granted. The basic idea in the Mississippi system is that junior college education shall be provided at a low cost to the students. Tuition to district residents has never been charged. Total cost to dormitory students is not more than \$250.00 per nine months. Junior Colleges in Mississippi were established with the idea they would be "people's colleges." This is a fundamental concept as far as Mississippi is concerned and accounts for the popular approval by tax levying and legislative bodies over the years.

Implementation

The Commission is developing standards for new districts and new colleges and for colleges that wish to qualify for state appropriations. The Mississippi Junior College Association is active in assisting in developing standards that will meet Mississippi needs.

The 1950 Legislature passed other very helpful legislation. It appropriated approximately \$175.00 per capita per annum and \$50,000.00 for each junior college for construction of new buildings or for the repair of existing buildings.

March 29, 1988

Dear Dr. Smith,

I appreciate your thoughtfulness
in inviting me to your wonderful
musical, "South Pacific" during one
of the four dates. I regret that I will
not be able to go, since I have not
been up to par the past six months.
I remember what a joy it was to be
with you last year.

I take "The Newton Record" and

Congratulate you weekly for your
splendid leadership at my na-
tive Junior College.

Sincerely,

Bernice Day Todd



Dear Miss Barber,

11/3/89

It is so wonderful that you can see to write again. Your writing is so much better than mine with my arthritis fingers. I hope you will continue to improve until you can do more things that you enjoyed doing a few years ago.

Thank you so much for all the latest news about C.C.C. and Homecoming. I enjoyed reading every word. It is always amazing and a joy to hear about the successful achievements of the people I knew as freshmen and sophomores.

The Alumni for this year made excellent choices in selecting Mr. Smith and Mr. Walterine Bell for special honor and recognition as part of the Homecoming Activity.

I am also glad to know about the good, ambitious students, and continuation of excellent teaching in recent years.

I am glad you are blessed with a brother who can visit you often and take care of your special needs.

In my case it seems that the solution to problems increase with the years.

I drive to the local grocery stores, a branch division of the bank, and to church Sunday AM if there is a parking space near the entrance.

I am trying to be careful with my local driving. My license extends through 1990.

For replacements and house repairs, I have used the telephone. Although very expensive, it is the only way to contact so many businesses that have moved to East Montgomery (some outside city limits).

I will probably hold on to my walking cane for all the future time. With that or whatever it takes, I will try to get my needed exercise to the extent of hopefully taking care of my necessary needs.

I am sorry to be so slow about writing - so is all my activity.

Thanks for your patience and continued friendship.

With love,

Ethel Burton

Oct. 31, 1989

Dear Miss Barber

I was so glad to hear from you and especially to have the honorees among the alumnae. I don't think I've ever heard from or of any thing about Wateline since I taught her. She was certainly a perfect choice for a honoree. I did so enjoy teaching about her, and how she managed to finance her training. She wasn't at all sure that she could, especially since very few girls were accepted in those days.

Could you possibly find her address, probably from some of the Union girls and send it to me. I would love to write to her.

That was surely a complement for Dr. Smith, also, especially after his having been President of the school for two years. It shows how much they thought of him.

It was so sweet of you to send the
two articles to me,

Right now, I have a terrible
cold, and am about to cough my
head off. I'm hoping I can get off it
soon.

I hope letters don't carry germs, and that
you don't get it from this one.
Write me again if you can.

Love,

Una.

1901

Decatur, Miss
Jan. 30, 1989

Dear Dr. Smith:

This gift to East Central Community College is given in memory of former faculty members Mrs. Janie Sullivan and Mrs. Stella Newsome. It is also in honor of Miss Una Harris, Miss Ethel Burton, and Dr. Smith.

I spent nineteen happy years living in dormitories with hundreds of girls and serving as Social Adviser to boys and girls on campus. I am for ECCC. Now I am very happy to see improvements being made on the campus and progress in the academic field under the wise and capable leaders, Dr. Smith. My prayers are for the continued growth of the college.

Sincerely,
Emma Lee Barber

cc: Dr. Eddie M. Smith
Mr. Ovid Vickers
Huff Auditorium File
Archives File (Library) [Original]

\$ 500.00
Huff Fund
1-31-89



9/1/87

Dear Miss Barber,

I am sorry about the long delay in response to your last letter.

There has been so much illness and deaths related to our family or members of our family that it was difficult to clear my mind of the sad situation.

On July 6th my sister, Martha lost a son-in-law, on July 30th, a brother's son-in-law passed away as a result of five years cancer, three of which were helpless ones.

Presently a brother's daughter-in-law is in a serious condition with some form of the same malady. Also I have a second door neighbor, a bed patient at home with a similar problem. There seems to be no end to the weekly report that some one we know has some form of this fatal illness.

In addition my thoughts have often turned to the tragic death of Nellie Cross. I hope Frank has been able to make some helpful adjustment to this sad change in his life.

As you know from personal experience, friends and relatives

are ^awonderful help, but personal adjustment is mostly up to the individual.

I was so glad to hear the good news about the recovery of Gladys Pennington, and hope she has continued on the upgrade.

You are so fortunate to have a wonderful brother who is so helpful with your personal needs, as well as growing a beautiful supply of vegetables that you can share with your good neighbors.

Not anyone in my immediately family here or away from Montgomery can do much more physically than I have been able to do. The main difference they use some mechanical help. While mine is limited to personal outdoor exercise when weather conditions are favorable.

In each place in Ala. where my family lives, the weather all summer has been very hot and too dry to produce good crops of vegetables, and the local

markets have been limited in variety.

So we are very thankful that September has brought a good change in temperature - although only a trace of rain in this part of town.

Retirement homes and nursing homes have multiplied here like mushrooms. Although I have not heard of one for which I would want to exchange the privacy and personal privileges of my humble home.

Hope your health has been and will continue to be sufficient for you to continue to enjoy your home and your many friends in Hecatur.

As you can see there is much writing with very little said. The main idea is I think about you and other friends in Hecatur who were so wonderful to me.

With love,

Ethel Burton



My dear Mr. Smith:-

Thank you so very much for your kind letter. I was touched when I was told about the scholarship which had been established in Pat's memory. It would have meant so much to him to know that his boys still loved him and I sat here alone and remembered so many, many things about the growth of E. C. J. C.

I do want to tell you this little incident and why it was my privilege to add my little contribution to Pat's memorial scholarship which some fine student of E. C. J. C. will someday enjoy.

We moved to Decatur during the summer vacation and the Great Depression! There was very little money floating around, but I was real rich!! I had \$2000.00 of my own. We could make the change from Dupont T. M. I to Decatur's E. C. J. C. and could manage O.K. until the fall term. We were sent to the Teacherage for the time being. Then the lady teachers would take over the Teacherage and we would move



into the Boys' Dormitory. When we would go to Meridian to see a movie or some such entertainment, I would gather up my \$2000 less what cash we needed for the outing, and roll the bills in a pair of Pat's dark socks, then hide the bundle in the bottom of the laundry bag.

At the time we didn't have but one doctor in Decatur. The flu was raging in Dupelo and a few deaths occurred. I decided that I should take out an insurance policy with the New York Life. Of course, I made Pat my beneficiary and I slept better, for I knew that I could at least help Pat out if worst came to worst. It was only a small policy, but was paid up in a few years, and I let it pay the dividends but let it run on. Then, when on March 15, when God sent Pat to a heavenly assignment, I still had the little New York Life in my separate account, for Pat had said to hold it on because I might need it some day.



So, when your wonderful people organized the Scholarship in Pat's memory, I was so thankful that I could have a part in it and could make it a

~~This birthday~~
was Dec 3rd

~~birthday~~ gift. It comforted me, and E. C. J. C. will seem close again.

Again, I thank you for your nice note, and my love goes out to every one connected with this scholarship in memory of Pat Wilson who deeply loved E. C. J. C., the little town of Decatur, and everyone who lives there. God bless all of you.

Sincerely your friend,

Ginnie Wilson

Mrs. Lindsey O. Todd

0139305

11/14/87

Dear Doctor Smith,

I am sorry that I missed you and Brad when you took the time to come by while attending the Junior College Association Meeting. There are times when I would like to be at two places at the same time!

In case your files do not have copies of the enclosures which you need not return I thought you might be interested in reading them.


I am delighted that your Development Foundation is undertaking the refurbishing of Haff Auditorium which is long overdue. I hope "The Newton Record" and I

Mrs. Lindsey O. Todd

139305

like to read the E.C.F.C. news -
especially the "Minutes of the Board
meetings" which I feel will lessen
political conflicts. Todd loved
his thirty-seven years of Junior
College Administration. After his
death I answered a thousand
letters of appreciation from former
students - They had many problems
from 1934 to 1953 which he listened
to especially during the depression
when they had no money to pay for
board or meals - He found jobs for
them to do on campus and ^{some} even
worked our garden and ate with us
at our table in the President's home.

Sincerely and best
wishes to you and yours,
Mrs. L. O. Todd

 07
February, 9, 1989

Dr. Eddie M. Smith, President
East Central Community College
Devatur, Mississippi

Dear Dr. Smith:

The message in your letter of January 31, 1989 was one of the greatest surprises of my life.

I have been blessed with Miss Barbers friendship and personal association for many years, yet there was never a thought that she would include in our friendship a gift in my honor.

I think it very appropriate and deserving that she have this tie of recognition with the school where she gave many years of dedicated service.

It is a special honor for me to be counted as a member of the East Central Family, especially after so many years of inactive involvement.

My special thanks to you for this latest news, which gives me another chance to test my memory on the pleasant and personal relationships of the past.

Sincerely yours,

Ethel Burton
Ethel Burton

cc: Dr. Brad Tucker
Mr. Ovid Vickers



 07
June 28, 1938.

Dr. Eddie M. Smith, President
East Central Junior College
Decatur, Mississippi 38327

Dear Dr. Smith:

Thank you for your unusual thoughtfulness in sending me another yearbook. I have enjoyed it very much, especially noting how student life is portrayed differently each year. There is evidence of a challenge for each Wo-He-Lo staff to come up with something as good or better than the preceding issues.

With a new name becoming a reality in a few days, the staff for this yearbook did an excellent job in using that idea throughout the book. I liked the way they gave credit to you, the trustees and faculty, as well as, present and former students.

While some of us older and out of daily touch may forget the change at times, we retain the memory of being a small and insignificant part of the schools youth. We are happy and proud today that the continuing growth of East Central has advanced to so many additional areas of service.


May each future school year continue forward on the good name of its inheritance.

To be brought up-to-date on the current progress, and a mind look into the future is a special treat that I gratefully appreciate. For this and all school news that you have sent, I send my sincere thanks.

Sincerely yours,

Ethel Burton

RECEIVED
JUN 30 1938

et
5107
June 18, 1987

Dr. Eddie M. Smith, President
East Central Junior College
Decatur, Mississippi

Dear Dr. Smith:

Thanks for sending me the new Yearbook portraying an interesting and up-to-date view of activity on the Campus of East Central Junior College.

My personal interest was centered on recognizable names of students who were probably relatives of some of those of former years.

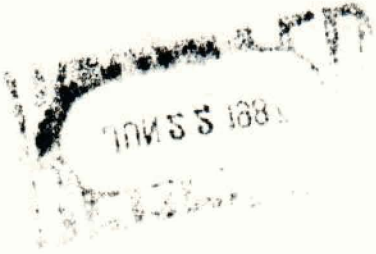
Also beginning with the Trustees and through the Faculty group, I was delighted to see several with whom I had enjoyed a warm personal relationship as students, Faculty co-workers and friends.


And my special thanks to you for this surprise pleasure, as well as , a reference for future enjoyable hours.

Sincerely yours,

Ethel Burton

cc: Mrs. Carol Vickers
Mr. Ovid Vickers
Dr. Brad Tucker
Mrs. Ann Burkes✓


JUN 23 1987


October 23, 1987

Dear Mr. And Mrs. Vickers,

I hope you will forgive my unpardonable delay in response to your wonderful birthday message and other enjoyable news received many months ago. You both have always expressed devoted friendship to me which I greatly appreciate. My conscience has pricked me many times because of my negligence.

I do not like excuses, so I will limit the explanation to say that our family has been much involved and concerned over terminal and fatal illness in both old and young. I realize that our situation has been very much the same that others experience all the time. Personally I have tried not to be a part of the problem.

I was shocked and am still saddened by the death of Nellie Cross. It has not been necessary for me to be in Decatur to miss Charles Pennington. I will probably miss Nellie the same way.

While going through some personal clippings that I wanted to keep, I noted the enclosed one ; written and presented I think in the late 30's. My thought at the time was to send it to someone on the Campus. In the meantime I have misplaced it twice. I do not recall whether there was a school paper at that time. I do remember that a paper giving the complete program was kept in the library until worn beyond use by interested students and faculty. Sorry I did not write the date and source. My only thought then was my personal relationship with Miss Stella, since I had asked her for a copy.

Mr. Vickers, Miss Stella probably told you about the occasion, and you may have seen her original presentation. Since you were associated with her in the English Department, I am sending it to you to do whatever you wish.

The speeches and music were presented on the stage and floor of the Gymn while faculty, students and visitors were seated in the balconies. I think Mrs. Todd and probably some of the 400 students would be good sources of detailed information. What a great contrast on the reality today and her vision based on the school's beginning.


[Dr. Smith has been wonderful about sending me information on many Campus activities since he became President. His thoughtfulness has been a happy reminder of many personal and enjoyable experiences with faculty and students, and a feeling of close relationship with the present E.C.J.C.

Personally I try to adjust to the limitations that challenge my daily activities. I am so thankful for the reasonably good health that I have enjoyed.

Sincerely,

Ethel Burton

P.S. Corrections would delay sending in this letter


April 27, 1987

07

Dr. Eddie M. Smith, President
East Central Junior College
Decatur, Mississippi

Dear Dr. Smith:

Thank you so much for your thoughtful and kindly message with the East Central Yearbook 1986. This publication gave me an opportunity to take a thoughtful glance to some of the pleasures of former years.

I congratulate the Advisor and Students who have so well portrayed East Central as successfully meeting the challenge of "Breaking Through To Something New in 1986".

It was a joy to have a recent view of several Faculty members with whom I treasure the memory of a warm friendly relationship.

Thank you not only for this gift, but also the many other communications which have kept me in touch, and gave me a chance to share in thought with the present East Central.

Sincerely,

Ethel Burton

cc: Dr. Brad Tucker
Mr. Ovid Vickers
Mrs. Carol Vickers
Mrs. Terry Gressett
Mrs. Anne Burkes ✓

Decatur Mississippi
April 13, 1987

Dear Dr Smith:

I just can't tell you how much I appreciated the ECJC 1986 Year Book, it certainly will make some happy hours for me. It is so interesting to see many changes in Faculty Clubs, etc. It made me wish I could have worked one year with you even though I worked with your ECJC presents during the nineteen years I worked with hundreds of girls. I do want to thank you for complimentary tickets you have sent to me the wonderful reception in your home. I love ECJC and the progress it is now making under your direction as an outstanding President.

Please express my appreciation to Charlotte for being my good neighbor and a wonderful hostess in your home. Both of you have been the most gracious neighbors I have ever had next door. I hope I can be as thoughtful of you and your family.

Sincerely
Erma Lee Barber

November 21, 1986

East Central Junior College
Music Department
Decatur, Ms. 39327

Dear Mr. Hinson:
Mrs. Graham:
E.C.J.C. Choir:

I want to thank you for the opportunity of conducting the Hallelujah chorus.

Over the years I have conducted college choirs and community choirs and community choirs with symphony orchestras but none surpassed the thrill I experienced Thursday at the retired teachers meeting.

Vocal blend, diction could not be surpassed. All of you should be proud of your work.


Thank you again and blessings to each and every one of you.

Sincerely,

R. G. Fick
R. G. Fick

cc
Dr. Eddie Smith, President
East Central Junior College



 7
December 12, 1988

Dr. Eddie M. Smith, President
East Central Community College
Decatur, Mississippi

Dear Dr. Smith:

I read with delightful enjoyment the generous gift of information covering Homecoming 1988. There is ample evidence that much planning and extra work was involved in preparation for so many events on this special day.

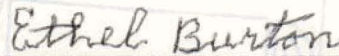
My congratulations to you, the Faculty and Students who must have worked cooperatively extra hours to portray E.C.J.C. so well through the Alma Mater section and the Tom Tom. Also special recognition due those who spent many unrecorded hours carrying out the planned program.

May E.C.J.C. always have an abundance of students with eager and open minds, and willing to work for a high goal of achievement.

Thanks to you and Mrs. Smith for your personal messages that came to me through your thoughtful Get Well card and your beautiful Christmas Greeting.

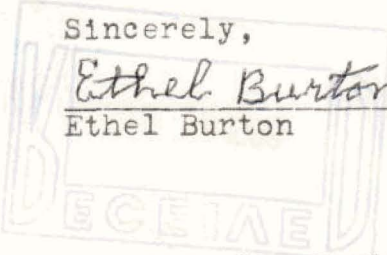
With special wishes to you both for a very enjoyable Christmas Season that extends throughout the approaching New Year.

Sincerely,



Ethel Burton

cc: Dr. Tucker
Mr. Vickers



8-17-94

Dear Dr. & Mrs. Sickers

Thought you would be
interested to know my Aunt,
Uma Harris passed away
July 24 1994. She had devel.
opid breast & bone cancer
in Jan. 94 and fought a
brave fight. At her age all
we could do was try to

Keep her from suffering
She loved her years
& association with ECCC.
Her students & friends in
Mississippi were truly an
outstanding period in
her life.

Tendly.

Virginia Harris Lacy

12/13/91

Dear Miss Barker,

I think about you often and realize each time how much your continued friendship has meant to me.

I was saddened about the condition of Mrs. Harris and some others we knew. Our inability to help them only emphasizes the sadness we feel for them and their loved ones.

Thank you for the clippings. I especially enjoyed the one about Mr. Boggs. I knew him only as a citizen of the town. He gave me a flu shot and probably some medication for colds. The teachers (new to me) I will never have the privilege of knowing personally. Just glad that under the leadership of Mr. Smith the school is growing and maintaining a wonderful standard of excellence.

My family and everyone I know have health or some other consuming problem. Some from increasing age. Others related to ups and downs of normal life.

My two youngest sisters (Margaret and Edith) live about the same distance from Bham. as you do from Meridian. Their homes are about ten miles apart.

Margaret and I spent a night with you in Newsome Hall on a visit with our ill brother in Baton Rouge.

The above sisters came for a one day visit

last year between Christmas and new year.

Sadly we cannot expect to see them this year.

Margaret's husband has had diabetes for several years, apparently adjusting to a normal life with the exception of special foods suitable for his case. He is now in his 80's and has other health problems all becoming more critical recently. ~~He~~ He has dizzy spells and black outs sometimes resulting in falls. So our family gatherings decrease beyond our control in one way or another.

The pressure of the seat belt on Martha's neck in the car wrecks, aggravated the arthritis there and in her shoulders. She has improved a great deal but continues to have some pain when moving her head in different directions. This situation makes it prohibitive for her to drive a car, which she will not likely do again. She does some things better than I do. We both have all the qualifications for handicaps.

I get part of her groceries when I get mine. Her family and a resident friend take ^{care} of her other daily away from home needs. I drive to church when the weather is suitable for both of us to go.

We leave all holiday plans in the hands of three younger homes across town from us. My niece has family members here, in Georgia and Texas. Some could not come for Thanksgiving and will not be here until after Christmas day.

She had all the local family and one out of town group for Thanksgiving dinner on Sunday. So the larger gathering for Christmas may be on Saturday or Sunday.

They are wonderful to include and come for Martha and me for all holiday and other

special occasions, and usually bring us home with a generous plate of food for the next day.

The four children ages $2\frac{1}{2}$ to six have their places covered with more toys than they can enjoy, and will get more this Christmas. They are growing them as rapidly as they do clothing.

I do not drive to the large shopping areas for anything. I could not survive the mob to do Christmas shopping. Just to be with loved ones is a joyful Christmas. I thank them for not expecting more than I can physically do.

Hope you have been getting along in every way possible. I hope you and your loved ones will have all the joys of being together. May you be blessed ^{with} better health and abundant enjoyment of daily living throughout the coming year.

Much love,

Ethel

Aug. 20, 1991

Dear Miss Barber,

I was saddened by the news of Gladys Bryant's death, and the health condition of Una Harris. I wish retirement for both could have been better.

We never know the future for any of us as the years increase. I am humbly grateful for many blessings and still aware of a close borderline for me, where some members of my family and devoted friends have traveled.

There was some other sad and some good news about people I know. Thanks for sending the article.

I am glad you can visit with your brother often. You both are probably more helpful to each other than you realize.

The copy of Anslem's questions and his mother's answers were very interesting to me, especially her direct source and Bible quotations. It is a treasured remembrance from her to her family for life.

Martha and I continue to struggle along with what we can do for ourselves. We have been fortunate to have good help when needed from her grandchildren and friends. I sometimes think we both should give up our independence.

However, we have had friends where that
worked well for some and others it did not.

We both enjoy some activity which is not
available in the financially reasonable
retirement homes.

Weather conditions deteriorated my figs
and pears faster than I could take care of
many. I finally let the birds and
squirrels clean the trees.

I am glad you continue eye treatments
Some day you may receive an unexpected
future blessing.

With love,

Ethel

1.
Ashbury Center
400 North Boone St.
Johnson City, Tenn
Dec 10, 1991

Dear Miss Barber,

At last I am beginning to do what I should have done much earlier; that is, to respond to those friends who who have been so thoughtful in letting me know that you were concerned with what was happening to me and did so much to encourage me and to cheer me up, and there were times when I needed the cheer and encouragement you gave me.

Virginia told me that she had told you of my illness, when I suffered the stroke and knew nothing for a while, about six weeks, she has told me since.

As for me, it was a complete blank period in my life, and it took

2

several weeks for me to realize what
had happened to me.

I was in about 3 or 4 different
hospitals and nursing homes.

I am much better now and am
being taken care of by a number of nurses
in various ways.

I was so sorry to hear of Margaret's
death, but she had suffered for a long time,
hadn't she?


you are being really brave about your eyes;
I do hope they will improve.

I have one leg that continues to give
me trouble. My nurses give me pain
pills continuously, which enable me to
live reasonably well.

Tell the Dickers & will write to
them soon. You have my love and affec-
tion. Love, Zina

Aug. 22, 1990

Dear Miss Barber,



Thanks you for the many messages about your friends and mine in literature, and your thoughtfulness in continuing to write with your eye problem. You are truly a great friend.

My excuses are out of order compared to your discomfort. I believe adjusting to changes when past rigidity is the most difficult of all the age span. It is definitely not the age to be filled with expressive energy, nor motivated to do better, and with speed things one has done over and over for years. Thankfully my mind still plans for a full day of the things I want to do, and often ends with only the necessities behind me.

A cold and light case of pneumonia in late spring brought my weight down to 95 lbs and energy near zero. This August heat gives me an opportunity to put off all exercise errands until a cooler time. I plan to continue doing all I can as long as physically possible.

I am so sorry about the death of Mr. Fick. This saddress brings to mind the many previous deaths of both faculty and students - some very tragic.


Leonard was a small child as were other faculty children when I left, or soon thereafter. To think about them ^{as men and women, & adults} now is a good impression of the passing of time.

I hope your sister-in-law has greatly improved in health, and will never need to have surgery to get better.

There has been both sad and happy times in my family during the past several months. I lost a niece in late June. So many years of her life were

saddened by her illness or of her family. Her husband had several years of struggle with cancer, and she has been helpless much of the time since. She left two married children and a grandchild.

It has been a special joy to have had short visits from most of the far away nieces and nephews. Those who live near are very helpful to my sisters and me.



Most of them are married with children and grandchildren, and have taken over all responsibilities of family gatherings. It is great to be a guest, in preference to a cook and dishwasher.

I do not want to bore you with my personal life and limitations. I try to concentrate on the little I can do, and not think about the many things I cannot do anymore. You have been so helpful with the many clippings about people related to the school and town, and more so with your many personal letters.

Thank you from my heart for all your expressions of a wonderful friendship.

With love,
Ethel

39402

Dear Dr. Tucker,

Please give the enclosed letter
to Ide to read to the class. He
was a good student of mine and
a member of the Kalijee - Peers,
of which I was sponsor. He
and his very beautiful wife had
me to a meal when I was
teaching an extension class
from WDM at Carthage in
the 1950's. A good man!

Thanks for the report and
the tickets. I'm very sorry I
shall not be able to attend.

(Over)

Your sincere friend,
Leon Eubanks

On second thought, it would
be nice if someone could run
off enough copies of my letter to
give a copy to each member
of the class of 1940.

J. E.

RECEIVED

OCT 11 1960

October 11, 1960
J. E. [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]

98

ippi
02

October 13, 1990

Dear Friends,

I greatly regret my inability to be with you today. I have to stay with my wife, who is in poor health. Maybe fifty years from now, when you celebrate your 100th anniversary, I'll be able to attend!

We're in a crisis in the Persian Gulf. Let ~~us~~ ^{me} assume the vernacular of an old-timer Chactaw and make an observation. Quote: "Spec so maybe news hours back wrong tune. They call man's name wrong."

They say Saddam Hussein.
wrong. Not Saddam, but
Sad Dam. Not who Sane,
but who Insane. Full name:
Sad ~~to~~ Dam who Insane.

It is very sad to note
that many members of the
Class of 1940 at ECJC are
deceased. Also I feel sadness
over the fact that many are
in poor health. Those present—
bless you!— seem to be going
strong.

I attribute my longevity
to the fact that I danced with
the ECJC coeds. Did you
ever see any of the following
dancing with the coeds: L. O.
Jedd, E. R. Johnson, Ray Gibson,

Frank Cross, John W. Eskes,
John McConaughy, Robert
Flynt, Folia Sullivan?
all are dead, and I am
still ambling along —
because — "I danced
with the girls with the
beautiful curls and the
band played on."

Nowadays teachers are
judged by whether they "made
a difference," as to whether
I "made a difference" is a
matter each of my former
students decides for himself/
herself - all I can say for
myself is this, to paraphrase

an inscription on a tombstone
in Arizona: "I done my
damnest!"

Best wishes and good fortune
to you beautiful girls and you
ball-headed men!

your teacher of gore,

Leon Eubanks

brother like him.

I don't get around very much; the leg that I injured gives me a great deal of trouble, and I am not very near my three pieces ^{who} are the only relatives I have, so that I don't see them very often. One of them did take me to a reunion of the "Harrises" a few Sundays ago which was a real event in my life even if I did have to attend it in a wheel chair.

The trip reminded me
(over)

Sept. 2, 1992

Dear Miss Barber,

I do think of you often, and of Carol and David, too, but old age has slowed me down so much that writing has become a tremendous undertaking for me, and I do appreciate your attempting it.

The life you are sharing with your brother sounds like a most pleasant one. You are lucky to have a

of times you used to con-
vey ^{me} back and forth in the
car when I ~~when~~ had the
broken hip.

The Decatur people must
have had a wonderful trip
to Europe. It was so nice
that the Vickers family could
go together.

If you will write me again
I promise that I will ans-
wer. I do ~~do~~ appreciate hear-
ing from you all so much.
Don't think that I could
ever forget you!

Illustration by
DIANE MAHANEY
Alexandria, Virginia

7001

I Love You,
Rene Harris

200*
Printed in U.S.A.



Sept. 18, 1992

Dear Carol and Edie,

I had a letter recently from
Miss Barber reminding me
that I had not written to either
her or you for a long time.
I admit my failure to do so,
but the fact is that old age
has taken the advantage of me
to the extent that writing
a letter has become a
tremendous undertaking
and the truth is ^{that} my life has



become such a limited one
that nothing that I could say
in a letter would be of interest
to any one. On the other
hand, the news clipping that
she included in her letter in-
formed me that the East Cent-
ral Community College Fac-
ulty was enjoying what must
have been an exciting vaca-
tion in Europe. I still recall
my own experience there so
many years ago.



I believe that it was
Ard who told me that you,
Ard, was retiring this
year.
I was a little surprised
to hear in your letter, yester-
day, which I was so glad to
receive, in recognition of
my birthday, that you could
not tear yourself away from
the joy of teaching entirely.
When I had been picturing you
already, in company with your
mother, exploring the joys of free-
dom from the school-room.



I must admit, however, that
I am not surprised to hear that
your ties with youth and
education were not, to you, to
be so easily broken. and
the temptation of freedom to
enjoy "what might be called self-
ish pleasure," with out regard
to your relationship to others.
Actually, it's what I might
have expected from you, and
I am sure that you will still
find time for sharing your
attention for your mother, and,



wouldn't it be wonderful if you could find time with your mother and Avid for a trip to the mountains of East Tennessee, when you could slip in a visit with me in Asbury Center?

In the meantime, please write to me again, and I declare I will answer it, within a reasonable time. It would be a wonderful pleasure to see you. I have wonderful memories of you both. Una Harris

9/1/92

Dear Miss Barber,

As usual I am months behind with letter writing. Almost daily my thoughts assure me that I will write some day.

Since I wrote you last, I lost my sister-in-law in Baton Rouge.

While you were working in Newsome Hall, my sister, Margaret and I spent the night with you on our way to Baton Rouge to see our ill brother. He died in 1974, and two of their four grown children preceded their mother in death. Three of the four were lengthy illness.

I cannot go to see them anymore, but there are times of serious thinking, personal and family adjustments to troubles and changes in family life.

My sister Margaret lives near Monticello closer to B'ham. than Montgomery. Her husband is practically an invalid, so Margaret has been to see us only a few hours once a year.

My feeble efforts at work emphasize the neglect of my place, and I seem to be at a standstill about improving the situation.

I try to follow a schedule of providing fairly balanced meals with some outside chores as exercise, and other daily necessities that fill most days.

I hope you have been able to continue regular trips to Jackson to be with your brother, and also regular worthwhile checks with your doctor.


I recall the article you sent to me about the oil wells on your home place in Burns.

Your parents must have had wise forethought about the value of land there.

I am sure you are very proud of the gift made to the church, a landmark of permanent value to the area.

I am so glad you and your brother are so materially rewarded for many years of care and upkeep, with devoted families that retained your love for the home while you were away in person.

With love,
Ethel Burton



Apr. 8, 1992


Dear Miss Barber,

It was wonderful that you and your brother made the enjoyable and safe trip to Texas and return. I am sure seeing and being with your family helped to overcome the long ride and body tiredness.

I appreciate so much your wonderful continuing friendship - sorry if my writing and the communications you so generously send me increase your eye problems. You deserve more than my meager thanks for many articles related to friends and the school. I was impressed with the account of the 1991 enlarged enrollment as well as the recent one about the many faculty either retiring or leaving the Campus, also the many items of business by the Board of Trustees.

I hope all changes will be helpful to the young people in preparing for chosen vocations. The news about present and former students was stimulating although there are many I do not know.

I congratulate you, Ovid and Carol on your proud devotion of all the young people in your families for their wise choices in vocations. As I hear and



read about the hundreds losing their jobs, I fear many missed the opportunity to prepare for the future.

I am slow to adjust to time and age passing so quickly. Anything out of the ordinary or routine puts me so far behind with all my activities. In early February my sister, Martha had severe pain in her right leg just above the ankle. X-rays indicated the possibility of a hair-line fracture. She wore a cement cast for two weeks with no desire to lift the weight in walking. Since removal she has resumed limited walking and necessary indoors chores with doctors caution to avoid a fall at all times.

Next I lost the filling in one of my few remaining original teeth. Several days were involved in treatment and final extraction. Sometimes I think I manage very poorly then I think about a next door neighbor who does much less, so I keep trying, and plan to enjoy better weather this month.

I was so glad to hear about Alma and hope she is continuing to improve.

Continue to take care.

Much love,
Ethel Burton

Dear Miss Barber, 9/9/93

I always enjoy your messages. Each one recalls some special memories of our good times together.

It is sometimes unrealistic to me to think that thirty years ago I retired from E.C.C.C.

You have made our wonderful friendship so meaningful by your personal letters and news of school and town we both knew.

I am thankful and gratefully blessed to have lived several years in my small humble home, where walking is aided by walls and furniture plus the walking stick.

My family, in and out of town, keep me well supplied with needs and assistance.

With many years behind me, I have become a creature of many habits. However, the demanding changes make what I can do more important than before.

Activity, mental, physical or whatever, is so helpful for normal living.

I am so glad you can enjoy time with your family. Ties become stronger as you have time to relax and enjoy companionship.

Hope all continues well with you at home and away.

Love Always

Ethel Burton



July 17, 1994

Dear Quid,

Thank you very much
for your note containing
the account of Decatur's
appreciation day for the
long and faithful services
of Dr. Bogan. He has indeed
been a priceless doctor for
Decatur and deserves all
the nice things that were
said and ^{Your thoughtfulness} ~~was~~ appreciated. ^{done for} ~~him~~

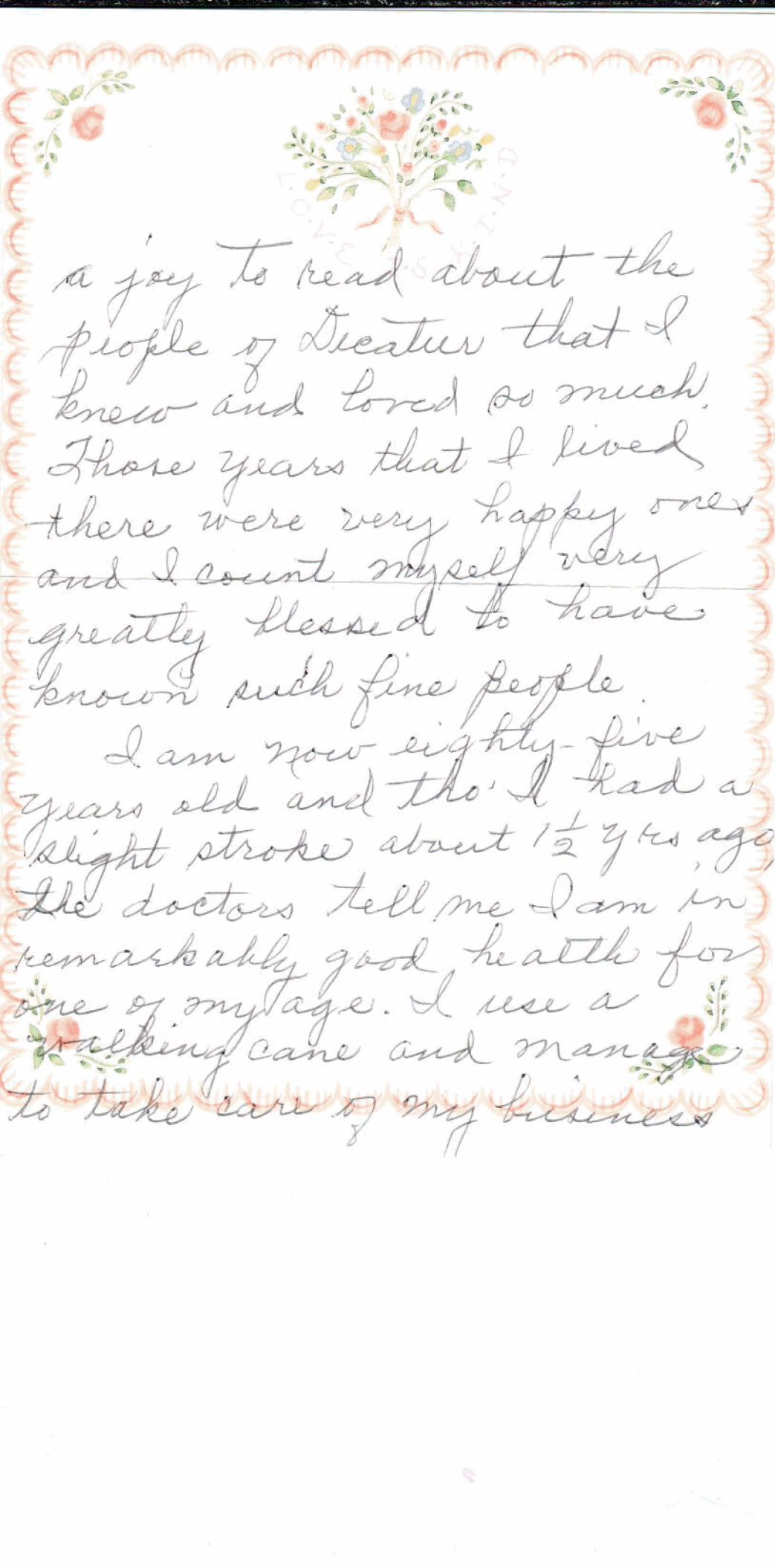
I also read with pride
Jack's letter. We are very
proud of all the grand
children and happy that Jack

has followed in his grandfather's
profession.

I also owe you thanks for
the pleasure I got from
reading "The Second Time Around"
for several years. I subscribed to
the Newton Record when I left
Decatur & still  enjoy each
week The Union  Appeal. It is

© HALLMARK CARDS, INC.
MADE IN U. S. A.

150TU 69-3



a joy to read about the
people of Leicester that I
knew and loved so much.
Those years that I lived
there were very happy ones
and I count myself very
greatly blessed to have
known such fine people.

I am now eighty-five
years old and tho' I had a
slight stroke about $1\frac{1}{2}$ yrs ago,
the doctors tell me I am in
remarkably good health for
one of my age. I use a
walking cane and manage
to take care of my business

and prepare my meals. I would
say that my housekeeping is
too good, but with the help of
my two nieces, Alice and Kay,
I get along fine and enjoy
reading, doing needle work,
solving crossword puzzles, etc.

I'm sorry to hear that
Ana's health isn't good. Glad
to know Miss Burton is up
and around. I have had
Christmas cards from both until
this last Christmas.

Hello to Carol and congratu-
lations to you on your
fine family.

Love,
May B. Pennington

9/2/95



Dear Miss Bacher,

My neglected writing has not prevented me from thinking about you often and the many wonderful times we shared together.

I have all the physical weaknesses of a person past mid 70's. However I am very thankful to think, plan and reason tolerably well. All former minor tasks have become major ones. Major ones, if I try one, takes days or assistance.

Blurring vision and arthritis in my hands hinders mental and physical uses to proceed at the same rate. I make many mistakes in writing. It is often best to throw away and start over days later.

Margaret Youngblood, my only living sister, and a niece who lives near (about 80 miles from here) have been coming to see me



for a day and night every two weeks
since July 1994.

Margaret brings prepared food and
takes over whatever needs to be
done.

My nurse does the errands and has been
taking me to doctors for treatment of a
growth on the palate of my mouth.

It has been a slow process of
removal since January 1994. On July
25, 1995 I had laser treatment in the
above area. This treatment brought to
view an extension of the problem near
the throat. Hopefully "what next" will
be decided at September consultation.

There have been so many deaths
in my family of eight and their
children. The relationship with
Survivals has been a great blessing
to me. Their visits, messages in
writing or by phone have done
so much to keep my mind
above depression.

I am so glad you and your
brother can visit each other
often. The value of such family
devotion and care cannot be
replaced by outside groups.

Things we do change the most. I may not
able to write often. I cannot forget your
thoughtfulness and kindness in so
many ways.

With love,
Ethel

4/19/97



Dear Miss Barber,

Sorry my time has been limited
for writing. On Feb. 9th my sister..

Margaret fell with a broken hip, which
fractured so badly it required two months in
hospitals and extended daily therapy before
attempting to walk again. She has been home for
two weeks and is doing well with support of a
walker. We have help day and night shared by
two women.

I use a walker daily for safety support, so the
best help I can give is "stay out of the way".

A niece from Texas came for 2½ weeks, made
contacts with the help we have now. Other relatives
employed made calls and other contacts often.

Two from Milwaukee will be here Saturday + Sunday.

Hope all things have been well with you and
may you never fall. That is one of the worst things
to slip up on an active or otherwise senior
person.

Thanks for your thoughtful clippings.

With love,

Ethel Burton



8/8/98

Dear Miss Barbara, 35115

I think of you often, and how I have enjoyed your many clippings of people we were surrounded with friendships special to both of us.

However my foremost thoughts have been about you with best regards for your good general health. I am thankful to keep trying to do what I can. And keep trying to do it ~~that~~ poorly.

The younger of our family come by months apart. It takes a year if they all make it


Some just for short visits. Some with prepared food. Some take us out to eat and for a ride.

The ones from D.C. always brings flowers to us and family cemetery. He was a florist after college. Now a hobby with flowers, orchid being one. We get what over is ~~available~~, Margaret has had yard flowers since 80s.

Hope all your basic injuries are behind you with good success.

Much love,

Ethel Burton



*You are cordially invited
to a luncheon celebrating the
100th Birthday
of*

Mamie Ethel Burton

Saturday, January 4, 1997

12:00 noon

*Personal Touch Gardens
9920 Wares Ferry Road
Montgomery, Alabama*

*RSVP by December 20th
(334) 271-4169
(334) 272-5047*

No gifts, please

4/19/99



Dear Miss Barber

Your friend wrote me a wonderful letter with a lot of good news about you and her, and what was going on across the street. It is a special effort to write for some one else, and I thank her. Hope you were comfortable and well during the extreme cold, and recently enjoyed the beautiful spring days.

It seems that my reasons for not writing fade away in these pretty days we have off & on. During cold weather my hands get numb with arthritis. I cannot follow the lines nor read what I have written.

I do not see people I have known. Those I see are old like me, almost beyond recognition. An attempt at updating





calls for a bit of reserving
to whom, when and where.
I did enough on and about
my income tax for it to be more
frustrating than ever.

My family thinks I should have
a doctor whenever I line, and
we soon need extra ones for eyes,
teeth and whatever ails ^{us} ~~you~~.
All my going is made up with two
or three schedules annually when
once a year was enough; and I am
loaded with a quantity of expensive
medicine.

Margaret and I are doing well
up for breakfast and daily mild
activities without dressing help. She
goes with car driver for groceries
local fruit grown here (strawberries
now - peaches and other fruit later)

I have a scarf I want you to
have - If you like to wear on your



porch on cool days - especially
while the weather is so changeable.
I probably have written you before. Two
local women take care of us in
margarets home - one stays four nights
and part of days - the other three nights
and part of days - prepare all meals. we
are alone or to ourselves in afternoons
we like this in preference to a
retirement home.
I hope I am not boring with repeats
hope all has been well with you
and will continue so.

much love
Ethel



11/2/58

M

22

15

Dear Mr. Vickers,

Congratulations on your poetry, the composer and all who participated in the Performance.

Hopefully it was all you desired in entertainment and personal enjoyment.

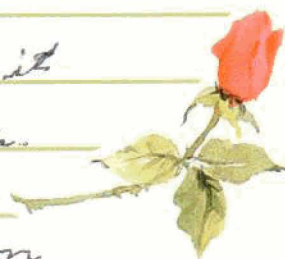
My special greetings to Carol and other devoted family members who supported with presence or thought.

I hope your thrill of success was increased by an appreciated audience, and urge for another Performance.

Thanks for the invitation, it brought feelings of friendship.

Sincerely

Ethel Burton



6/1/98



Dear Miss Barber,

It was good to receive your news and to know you could walk again, and hope you will improve daily. Recovery is a slow careful procedure and worth the effort.

The printed message from E.C.C. gave some unknown facts of East Central and some very good up to date news. I am so glad a new dormitory will recognize and honor your services to E.C.C. In your variety of experiences you would feel at home in an updated new dormitory.

I am sure there will be a way provided for you to go to the building when it is completed with your name making a connection with the original campus.

Mr. Elfridge has had a very





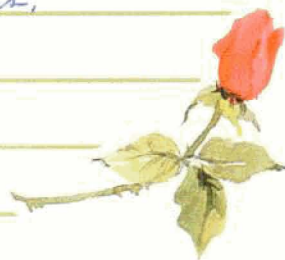
impressive and unusual
career. I am sure he will
be remembered with much
admiration by many students
and the present faculty.

Margaret and I are doing fine for
two old women. We are thankful to do
most of our personal needs and have
some one to help us with those we cannot
do. We are in the fruit growing section of
Ala. we have had fresh strawberries for
three weeks and peaches will be plentiful in
a week or so. We have needed rain very
much, not any from May 11th until last
Friday, May 29th with 90's or near temperature.
If summer is hot and dry, we will be home
for the season enjoying a cool inside
home. I am sending many mistakes,
I make them in typing also.

Take care.

With love,

Ethel Burton



1/5/98

Dear Miss Barber,

I am thrilled and happy about the Barber Dormitory.

You will have an opportunity to meet some nice girls and learn of this modern generation, and enjoy the changes without responsibilities.

You are close enough for your mind and ears to be turned to the progress of construction. Eye views may vary.

It is great you have heard from many people. I hope you hear from all available during your years of service on the Campus. I know you have many cherished memories and the girls recall the years as a milestone in their years of growth.

Presently Margaret and I are O.K. She has gone to the dentist today, and I will go in two ^{weeks}, we both have regular (two or more times per year to all our doctors)

Margaret had crippling Arthritis during her teaching years, and will likely have it for life. She had pneumonia last August. Someone drives ^{her} car for groceries and all other errands she needs to make.

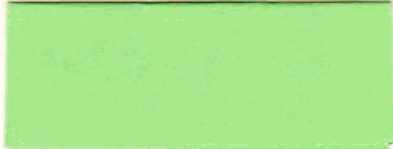
My weakening eyes has placed me on eye vitamins and next March or Spring a decision will be made about Cataracts.

I hope I am not repeating family information, a possibility since I do not remember what I have written to many. Hard arthritis and mind not together.

Hope you stay well and comfortable during these changeable months.

With love always

Ethel

5
March 20, 1998

Dr. Eddie M. Smith, President
East Central Community College
De catur, MS 39327

Dear Dr. Smith.

Thank you for your continued thoughtfulness in updating me on current activities. These messages tell me that East Central is on a progressive movement for growth and benefits to students now and in the future.

Hopefully My Fair Lady was just what the Director aimed in training, presentation, entertaning and financial support.

I enjoyed my journey through the 1996 Yearbok. As former ones, it presents a challenge to others following.

The cover of The Warrior for May, 1997, with the blooming azaleas caught my interest. Nothing would have pleased Mrs. Janie more than the full completion of this Park. With hand labor, she and many hard working students made a beautiful beginning in contrast to the original area.

Age makes a great difference in what I can do daily. Because of weakening vision. all ordinary reading has been eliminated. There are numerous other adjustments, not worthy of complaints , as much can be done with caution.

It's now time to discontinue sending me the Yearbook and The Warrior. You and friends within pages of these publications have supplied me with bountiful memories . I am grateful to each one.

May ECCC always be a personal choice for many future generations.

Sincerely,

Ethel Burton

Ethel Burton

cc: Mr. Ovid Vickers
Mrs. Ann Burkes
Mr. Bubby Johnston



Original: Archiles file (library)
cc: Mr. Vickers
Dr. Smith

October 19, 1996

Dr. Eddie M. Smith, President
East Central Community College
Decatur, Mississippi 30327

Dear Dr. Smith:

Your continual thoughtful updating me on what and when events will be on East Central Campus ,thrills me to be remembered for many years. Each invitation, notice, publication or whatever reverts my mind to another time and place with dedicated faculty and many talented students.

Your message in the recent Warrior convinces me that you are in the right place at the right time to carry amazing changes and visions into the next Century. May your leadership always be successful and rewarding, and with good health and happiness for you and your family.

I am grateful for many years of reasonable physical and mental health. It has been my fate to make several adjustments to lifestyle living. My sister and I share household duties, and each takes care of her own.

My Nephew, Chandler Burton, Jr. invited both of us to attend our Chandler Family Genealogical Reunion September 19-21/96 in Hart County State Park, Northeast Georgia. A wheel chair was provided for me to see the remaining Landmarks of my ancestors and to meet a few of the descendants of the many who had moved to other states, as my Father moved to Alabama. It was interesting to meet some trained related Genealogists from far away who worked non-stop one and half days of the two. I learned in this kind of gathering that the last days of man was emphasized over and over similar to the first age. After repeated references to my age and close proximity to my place of birth, I could only accept and enjoy the fellowship of many I never expect to see again.

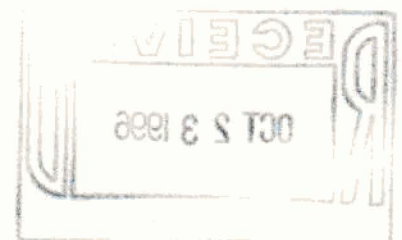
With your football game and Homecoming date before me, I have thought of many other events on this special day. I hope everyone ~~enjoyed~~ activities planned including the football score.

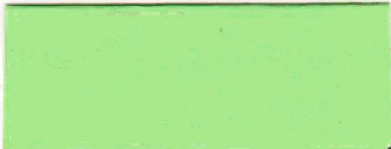
In time I will turn the pages not only to see the images of those I knew, but also to read with pride their successes in achieving desired goals for a better way of life..

Sincerely,

Ethel Burton

Ethel Burton




April 25, 1996

Dear Mr. Vickers,

Your visit a few months ago refreshed my mind on how wonderful you and Carol have been to keep me in your thoughts while busy with demanding duties. Thanks for taking my thoughts back to deep and pleasant memories, messages from devoted friends, and delicious fruit, which I enjoyed for many days. Also thanks for returning the Yearbooks where I hope they will be enjoyed by many young people.

For two years I have thought and tried to plan a permanent move from my home in Montgomery- perhaps a retirement home. After talking with friends in different homes, as well as, others who knew the privileges and responsibilities, I wanted to put off a move as long as possible.

My family home from 1919 to 1950 was about ten miles from the place I live now. I never had an idea of returning to this area as a place of residence. Circumstances can alter all plans.

My sister, Margaret, has lived here many years- alone since the death of her husband in July, 1994. This was the place I was taught to drive my first car in 1960. Through my sisters persuasion I moved here and it has been the best choice I could have made.

I hope semi retirement has given you and Carol helpful ideas for full time relaxation or whatever. When you and Carol go to visit your daughter in Birmingham I hope you will have time to visit me.


If you travel on I-85 Exit to Calera or two more miles North to Saginaw to HWY 31 which will junction with HWY 22 about 2-plus more miles. . Turn left on HWY 22 where it says Concord Baptist Church, pass the church and for about two miles you will be at rural mail box 9615 with only a drive in to a country home.

Phone (205) 668-2245

Sincerely,

Achel Burton

I am sorry about this typing. My handwriting would not be better


March 29, 1996

Dr. Eddie M. Smith, President
East Central Community College
Decatur, Ms 39327

Dear Dr. Smith:

Thank you for the recent invitation to the presentation of The Music Man. It implies a relaxing performance to look forward to enjoying. This is also a reminder of your unusual thoughtfulness in keeping me updated on school activities for many years.

Thank you for arousing excitement and pleasant memories when and where unforgettable ties of friendship grew in difficult times. This stimulation of thoughts has often made me feel like being a part of the audience.

With the thought and plans to move from my home in Montgomery was the decision of what to do with the Yearbooks that had meant so much to me. I could only foresee storage here and eventually throw away. There are no young people here to enjoy them as some did in Montgomery. After the call from Mr. Vickers the thought came to me, that you better than anyone would know who would like a worn copy replaced or otherwise. When I finish unpacking I will return those I did not send.

I am very grateful for many copies of The Warrior magazine which I have kept because there are many references to people who were closely associated with me in school work. The goals attained with outstanding results—Some expected, some with wonder and amazement, personal home life, retirement— all invaluable on what happened to So and So.

This move to my sisters home has proven to be a good choice.

Thank you for your continued thoughtfulness.

Sincerely,

Ethel Burton
Ethel Burton

cc: Mr. Vickers ✓


August 22, 1995

36107

Dr. Eddie M. Smith, President
East Central Community College
Decatur, Mississippi 39327

Dear Dr. Smith:

Thank you so much for the 1995 Football Schedule and the Athletic Pass for the years sports events. May this be the best year for all these events and all other activities related to the College Program including academic achievements.

A much regretted late thank you for your thoughtfulness in keeping me in touch and updated on all extra programs throughout many years. Each instance gave me a thrill of joy and mind view of place and time, where the goals and ambitions of sponsors and leaders had achieved desired heights. I am aware that much daily hard work, and worthwhile traditions were maintained while working for future higher standards.

I have been in retirement as long as I worked at E.C.C.C., and I can only thank you deeply from my heart for so much kindness and generosity received.

It seems to be the time to say what I have always hesitated to say to anyone.

For all the blessings of many years, I have blurred vision, stiff joints, aching muscles, and some doctors attempts at renewal. I have the determination to keep trying with fatigue taking over after a half day of slow movement. All of these handicaps lead to many mistakes in writing and necessary deeds. As this progressive result continues, my response will have to be brief, if at all.

Thank you for all your amazing references to the overwhelming expansion of East Central Community College.

Sincerely,

Ethel Burton
Ethel Burton

cc: Mr. Vickers
"FYI"

Original: Mrs. Burkes
(Library Archives)

4/11/94

Dear Miss Barber,

I have thought about you many times and my intentions to write were always hindered by problems beyond my control (mine and my families). There ^{are} only three of the original eight brothers and sisters left.

My sister (Martha) has been helpless for almost a year. First she had home care and help until last Christmas. Since January she has been in a school of the hospital to a nursing. She cannot talk and only occasionally any other means of communication. She is given blender prepared food by hand.

My other sister (Margaret) who lives near Montevilla, has been giving much needed care to her husband for 3 or more years. Since '92 she has often had to call for extra help. She had weekly nurses and aids for ~~several~~ day time help for a few months with some help from his nephew at night when needed. He spent most of May in the hospital trying to recover from pneumonia. He is now in a nursing home. Margaret tries to get there in the morning by eight A.M. to feed his breakfast, stays to feed lunch and 2 or 3 hours after.

I cannot help either of them. For any trip I need help in addition to Walker and W. Stick. So I try to keep in touch. Arthritis in my hands has been troublesome in cold weather. Recently extra pain has extended to full length of my arms. I cannot do much about reaching up to take care of my hair or reaching back to fasten a garment that opens in the back. I have been trying Flexall 454 to massage during day and take an aspirin to rest a night. There have been many other short term health problems, but the increase in Arthritis will be with me for life and I will need to work on it to do my daily necessities. I have some one to cut grass and yard work on the extra lot. I do not try to walk where there is nothing to hold to when I get there.

There is so much talk about people out of work. Every year it has been increasingly to find someone to do a good job on

minor repairs. Some of mine are undone and I know that is an indication I should give up the place. That will probably be determined to some extent by changing in health related to me or my sisters.

Sorry it takes about a half day to do this writing and say so little.

I am so glad you could be with your brother during the cold winter months, and can go anytime for a visit.

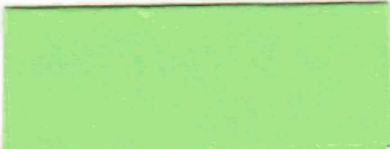
There is no comparison to the privacy and freedom of your own home. It is wonderful that you have been able to enjoy yours for many years.

A nice letter from Carol Vickers told me about several faculty members taking a trip to Ireland, Scotland and England, and some good local and family news. Carol and Irid have written me wonderful memory stirring letters - an extra welcome break in the problems of the day.

Thank you more than I can express for your many years of loyal devoted friendship

Love Always

Ethel Burton

 07
September 7, 1994

Dr. Eddie M. Smith, President
East Central Community College
Decatur, Miss 39327

Dear Dr. Smith:

Thank you for the many times you have directed me to the progressive activities of E.C.C.C., as in the recently received Athletic Pass and Football Schedule. With this announcement comes to my mind the thrill of seeing home players in competition with other Junior Colleges.

The Yearbook almost takes me to some unknown place where some ideas of fun and social life have been replaced with updated ones. At the same time giving academics and competitive sports adequate emphasis.

Thank you for a mind view of these and many unusual programs that have helped the forward movement of E.C.C.C.

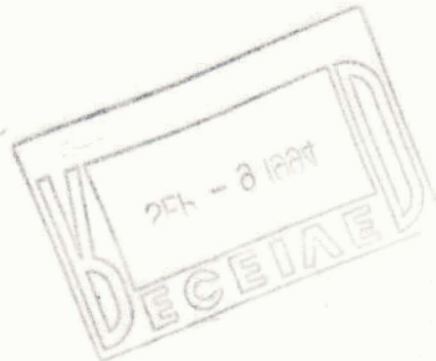
May you and your capable workers be justly recognized and rewarded for jobs well done.

Sincerely,

Ethel Burton
Ethel Burton

cc: Mr. Vickers

Original: Archives



10/1/94

Dear Ovid and Carol,

Thank you both for many enjoyable letters which have kept me in touch with the campus life of E.C.C.C.

It has been more than thirty years since I retired. To be remembered with letters and phone calls by many faculty and students has brought me many hours of joy and surprises. My gratitude cannot be expressed in simple words the full pleasure I felt from each one. You both write the kind of letters to be reread with interest and pleasure. In fact you have made me regret that I had no training in letter writing.

Writing for Miss Barber, as you both have done, is an example of real friendship/ She is fortunate to have a brother so deeply concerned about her welfare. I would think being together would dispell some loneliness for both of them. That may be when she is ready to get rid of her Decatur property. I think about her often and how helpful she has been to me in many ways. I am sorry the illness of her eyes has been a major handicap to her desired activities.

Thank you for your report on Miss Harris and Mrs. Gordon. I treasure Una's expressions of friendship on many occasions, personally and socially. I am sorry she had to go through a lengthy illness.

The nursing Course Will not only provide another choice in the curriculum, but also fill a growing need in the five counties.

I am glad the Library is in capable hands, who can make the required books, etc accessible to the members of the class when needed.

Sadly, I lost my sister, Martha and brother-in-law the same week in July. Both had reached a stage of Helplessness. One lived in the Montevallo area, the other here. There is and will continue to be adjustment both near and far.

I realize I have been unusually blessed with moderately good health. Fortunately and very slowly I am doing the daily chores with more time off than on duty. My eyes blur with some reading and other work. The doctor said nothing could help that, so I do not worry about it.

May this be one of the most successful and rewarding years of your teaching experience.

With love,

Ethel Burton



August 25, 1993

Dr. Eddie M. Smith, President
East Central Community College
Decatur, Mississippi

Dear Dr. Smith:

Thank you for your thoughtful gifts, Athletic Pass and Football schedule, and a good reminder of how far I have drifted from fast moving events of summer months.

Also I send belated sincere thanks for the enjoyable and informative Yearbook, as well as, many notices and news of eventful performances. All these means of communication have kept me in close touch, and made me very proud to have been linked (in a small way) with some former years of E.C.C.C.

Congratulations to you on all Honors and Awards so well earned, and with your help enlarged benefits to the school and community.

I wish you outstanding success in 1993-1994 and beyond, aided by an excellent faculty and many returning and newcoming student who accept demands with an adventurous challenge.

Sincerely,
Ethel Burton
Ethel Burton

cc: Mr. Vickers
Dr. Smith

Original: Mrs. Burkes - (Archives File)

3110 8/25/93

October 27, 1992

Dr Eddie Smith, President
East Central Community College
Decatur, Mississippi

Dear Dr. Smith:

We want to make a monetary contribution to East Central Community College in the memory and honor of ECJC Faculty Staff Members whose deaths have come in 1992. It is suggested that it be used for some cause in the Math, Science, or Education curricula. These were some of our closest friends at the time we were there and continued to be lifelong friends.

Lynn Dale Furgerson came to East Central Junior College as Registrar and Math Teacher at the beginning of the Fall Semester of 1946, with wife, Lucille and two-year old daughter, Lynda. Coming also, at that time was Robert C. Roberts, as Academic Dean and Science Teacher, with wife, Mary Lee, and five-months old Robert Holmes. Both families were from Kentucky. The Dean and Registrars Offices then, prior to the building of the Auditorium with offices, actually were one and the same, with a desk facing the other across the room.

As out-of-State new comers, returning from military service, along with many student veterans of World War II, we began our period of service to ECJC, both living on Campus, and in close Family ties for about thirteen years when R. C. Roberts and Family moved to Jackson, in 1959, taking a position with the State Dept. of Education.

Mr. Furgerson was held in high regard by both Faculty and Students. It is rewarding to have been associated with him so closely there, and ^{on} after he became Registrar at Mississippi State University. *occasions*

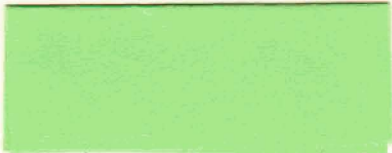
Clay Simmons was Business Manager, (also Graduate) of ECJC 1947-1949. He and wife Caroline, daughter, Suzanne, were endeared to the hearts of Faculty and Students alike. It was obvious at that time, that this Business Manager, and ECJC Alumnus, was destined for a very successful career of Service to Mankind. The long-column obituary appearing in the September 4, 1992 of "Roger C. Simmons" gave evidence to his life commitments and extensive achievements. *in the Jackson Clarion Ledger*

Lomer Cliburn Was a valuable man to the College when we were there and continued to serve for many years. He, wife, Mattie, and son Edsel were our good friends then and have remained our lifelong friends. He was adept in the Trade Skills, and as a teacher in the Education courses. He continued to serve ECCC even after Retirement as Board Member of the College.

Sincerely,

R.C. Roberts

Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Roberts



August 25, 1992

Dr. Eddie M. Smith, President
East Central Community College
P.O.Box 129
Decatur, Miss 39327

Dear Dr. Smith:

My words of thankfulness cannot fully express how helpful the many times and ways you have kept me in touch with the growing and developing life of East Central Community College.

To have returned that thoughtfulness, I should have presented all items of school interest to prospective young people. My weak excuse has been that I have been placed at all times with persons and groups related to my age.

I would like to pass these yearbooks to people who would enjoy them as much as I have. Each one presents to the new class what campus life was like during the preceding years, with a challenge to do as well or better.

I am sincerely glad to read from sources sent to me, that many former students and faculty have done an excellent job of promoting the school through their leadership and interest in community life.

I commend you for your years of excellent service, and wish you rewarding results in all your future plans.

Sincerely,
Ethel Burton
Ethel Burton

cc: Mr. Vickers
Mrs. Burkes
(Archives file)

3937
January 22, 1992

Mrs. Brenda Johnson, President
The Faculty Club
ECCC
Decatur, Mo. 39327

Dear Mrs. Johnson,

A few days before the Christmas holidays began in 1991 Mr. Ronald Davis and Mr. Raymond McMullan came to my home and brought a gift from the ECCC Faculty Club.

This exceedingly nice gift is a gold nugget ring and I was completely surprised to receive it.

When I review my thirty-one years at East Central I am appreciative of the association with each person there and for the opportunity to learn and, hopefully, to help others to learn.

Please convey my thanks and warmest regards to the faculty, staff and administration for your expression to me as represented by this gift of gold.

Sincerely,

George L. Mason


July 11, 1991

Dr. Eddie M. Smith, President
East Central Community College
Decatur, Miss.

Dear Dr. Smith:

I thoroughly enjoyed my visit to East Central Community College Campus through the pages of the 1991 Yearbook, In New Directions.

My very grateful thanks to you, the Sponsor, and Student Staff for this special enjoyment to my life.

I can see that skill and continual alertness are necessary to combine the outstanding student and faculty activities and events into an entertaining and valuable student memory record.

My special thanks also for many issues of The Warrior. There I can recall the many people I knew, and read with amazement and wonder at some of the unexpected achievements. I admire those who returned home and made the community a better place to live, and equally so those who chose other state homes and beyond for their ambitious goals.

I am aware that the time for beginning a new year is fast approaching. During this summer interval, I hope you have enjoyed some mental and physical relaxation. May all your future plans for the growth of the school be successful.

Sincerely,

Ethel Burton

cc: Mrs. Carol Vickers
Mr. Ovid Vickers
Mrs. Ann Burkes
Dr. Eddie M. Smith

Original: Library Archives file

ECJC FACULTY NEWSLETTER

Vol. I

September 9, 1966

No. 1

From time to time during the year, as items of interest to the faculty accumulate, we intend to distribute a Faculty Newsletter so that every faculty member may be informed about his fellow teachers. If you have an item which you think would be of interest, please write it out and leave it on the President's desk or on the desk of his secretary.

Ed and Patsy Maier are the proud new parents of an 8 1/2 lb. daughter, born August 27 and named Joye Elizabeth. Mr. Maier plans to bring mother and daughter to Decatur in two weeks.

The following teachers have moved off campus during the summer: Mr. and Mrs. Cliburn to their home in the Linwood Community of Neshoba County; Mr. and Mrs. McCarty to Gordon Street, Union; and Mr. and Mrs. Shoemaker to their new home on the Conehatta Road. Construction will begin in the near future on the home of Mr. and Mrs. Rives. The Joe Clarks have moved to the house formerly occupied by the Melvin Tingles, while Mr. and Mrs. Ezelle have moved into the house last year occupied by the Billy Smiths who have moved to a house just South of Union on Highway 15.

Teachers who attended summer school are: Joe Clark - MC; Mrs. Everett - Ole Miss; Miss Barfoot - USM; Mrs. Hull - USM; Dan Chatwood - USM; Mike McCarty - USM; Ed Maier - USM; and Ken Pouncey - Livingston State.

Beginning Monday September 12, Mrs. James Ezelle will be working in the Student Center under the supervision of the new manager, Mr. Hugh Holdiness, whom you have already met.

East Central is probably the only junior college in the state with a former Miss-

issippi Miss Hospitality on its faculty. Mrs. McPhail was Miss Dianne Cox of Clarksdale when she won this honor.

Dr. and Mrs. Wright's older son, Charles, underwent surgery in the Methodist Hospital, Hattiesburg, to correct a nasal condition. After returning home, Charles developed complications and had to return to the hospital. However, Dr. Wright reports that Charles Jr. is now completely well.

It is understood that Miss Lucille Wood's cucumber crop netted her a bumper crop which sold for \$3.65.

As you attend the ballgame Saturday night, you will no doubt notice that some new lights have been added and the bleachers have been painted.

Mrs. Hull accompanied her husband to the Mississippi Gulf Coast this summer for the County Superintendents Association's annual meeting. Mrs. Hull and the grandsons frequented the pool at the Beuna Vista while Mr. Hull attended conferences.

The entire college was saddened by the death of one of its first two faculty members, Mrs. Stella Newsome, who passed away on July 9. Her spirit will live on at ECJC because 14 of our faculty and staff were her students. Mrs. Newsome's daughter, Mrs. Marion Francis, resides at 4535 Normandy Drive, Jackson, in the event any of you would like to correspond with her.

Mr. T. C. Ward, a member of the East Central Board of Trustees for a number of years, passed away on August 22. Mr. Ward was also a graduate of East Central and a past president of the Alumni Association.

Both the Wesley Foundation and the Baptist Student Union have moved to new quarters, the Wesley to the first two rooms above the Student Center and the BSU to the house just across the street from the President's Home. Both of these groups invite you to visit them in their new facilities.

The ground floor of the rear wing of Jackson Hall, which housed the old kitchen, has been converted into rooms for girls. If you wish to view this wing, Mrs. Young will be happy to show you through.

A part of the Home Economics Department has been recently painted, and plans are to paint the rest of it in the near future.

East Central this summer graduated its largest summer class in many years. 35 graduates received their degrees in ceremonies held in the cafeteria on Friday evening, August 19.

Miss Una Harris who retired in the spring is at home at 731 West Maple Street, Johnson City, Tennessee. It is reported that Miss Harris has had extensive remodeling done in her home.

The regular session of the 1966 legislature failed to pass the Bond Bill that would have permitted the state institutions to have money for buildings. This bill passed the Senate but failed to get out of a house committee. As a result of this, no monies are available to the Mississippi junior colleges for buildings; however, Governor Johnson plans to put this bill before the special session which is to be called in November of this year. If it is successful in getting through and is similar to the bill that failed in the regular session, the junior colleges will get \$10 million.

Mr. Rives and Dr. Wright attended a meeting in Jackson last month on veterans educational benefit programs, and Mr. Rives can give you information about the different programs under which a veteran or veteran's dependents can attend college.

Let us all, as faculty members, support East Central's football team by attending the game with Perkinson Saturday night.

ECJC FACULTY NEWSLETTER
September 23, 1966

Vol. I

No. 2

Today marks the end of the third week of the current session, and if the remainder of the year proves as eventful as the first three weeks, this should be one of East Central's most interesting years.

Proof of the fact that vocational-technical education pays off comes through a report from Mr. Shoemaker that one of his 1966 summer graduates began work at \$100 per week and has recently been promoted to supervisor of the shop.

We welcome home Mrs. Ed Maier and baby daughter, Joye Elizabeth. All of you parents will understand if Mr. Maier looks a little sleepy some mornings.

Yesterday, Miss Wood and Mrs. Hull represented East Central's Faculty Club at a statewide meeting of local MEA leaders. The representatives were briefed on the work of the MEA for this year, including the legislative program and other matters of interest to all Mississippi teachers. Miss Wood will be happy to give you a more detailed report, and so will Mrs. Hull.

The following faculty members are enrolled in night classes this fall: Mr. Simmons, Mr. Ethridge, and Mr. Harris. Miss Barfoot, while not attending night class, is busily at work on her Master's thesis, the subject of which is "A Comparison of Balzac and Faulkner".

Miss Una Harris has joined the faculty of East Tennessee State University at Johnson City, Tennessee; and Mrs. T. O. Prince is now housemother in the senior women's dormitory at Athens College, Athens, Alabama.

You will be interested to know that Brother Neill, while still confined to bed, is recuperating nicely from the strained muscle in his back.

Next Saturday marks the first meeting of the year for the Neshoba-Newton County Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma, honorary society of women teachers of which Mrs. Simmons, Mrs. Hull, Miss Wood, and Mrs. Everett are members. Mrs. Hull will be serving as the group's president this year.

Coach Dan Chatwood spoke last week to the Newton Touchdown Club on defensive football and East Central's team for this year. He will make a similar talk to the Louisville Businessmen's Club next Tuesday at Lake Tiak O'Khata.

Miss Wood's commuting physical education students are enjoying the use of a freshly-painted and improved dressing room in the gym. These students had previously used a small dressing room in the main classroom building.

Today and tomorrow, Mr. Cliburn and members of the Student Education Association will represent East Central at a statewide meeting at Lake Tiak O'Khata. By the way, Mr. Cliburn recently visited with his brother Lavan and nephew Van Cliburn in Shreveport. While there, Mr. Cliburn was surprised to find himself being filmed with Van for a program which will appear on the Bell Telephone Hour on October 16.

Enrollment for the fall semester stands at 673, with 391 men and 227 women academic students. Of these, 29 are out-of-state students. The 673 figure includes 49 vocational students and 6 parttime students.

Activity on the west end of the campus does not indicate that we have begun a new building but that construction has now begun on Mr. Rives' new home. Mr. Rives expects to have Thanksgiving dinner in his new home.

The one-year business course has this year been revised in accordance with guidelines set by the Vocational Division of the Mississippi State Department of Education. The program now is nine months instead of twelve and will carry one additional course, which this year will be offered during the last semester. This course will be entitled "Office Work Practice", and each student in it will be required to serve in offices on the campus for one or more hours per day, serving not more than three weeks in any one office. More details about this course will be given to you at one of our faculty meetings later in the year.

Following is some information concerning the Manpower Development Program which East Central is conducting in Forest. Additional information may be obtained from Mr. Newell.

Small Gasoline Engine Repair Course (36 weeks - 15 students)
Coyt Hogue, Instructor

Electric Appliance Repair and Service - Section I (60 weeks - 15 students)
(7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.), Duane Reeves, Instructor

Electric Appliance Repair and Service - Section II (60 weeks - 9 students)
(3:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.), George Hallman, Instructor

Basic Education for Day Students - O. W. Putnam, Instructor

Basic Education for Evening Students - Thomas Everett, Instructor

In addition to these courses, East Central, in cooperation with Taylor Machine Works, is operating night classes for employees in blueprint reading, welding and automotive tune-up. Beginning September 26, two evening classes in blueprint reading will begin at Forest Industries, and other programs are in the planning stage for Forest Industries.

By way of closing, and in case you were impressed by the number of children at the faculty family night dinner, you might be interested to know that East Central's faculty has a total of 71 children, of which 40 are girls and 31 are boys.

"We've All Been Up The Down Staircase". Monday he delivered a similar address to the Decatur Exchange Club.

Twenty-one of the faculty heard Mr. Ebb Horton, retired Air Force Colonel now residing in Louisville, when he addressed the faculty Club on Monday afternoon, October 17.

On the 14th and 15th of October, Mr. Pennington was at Mississippi State University attending a conference on Cooperative Business and Office Education. Mr. Pennington reports that he enjoyed visiting with several of our former students who are now students in the Department of Business at State.

In the last Newsletter, we failed to mention that Mr. Maier is among those attending night class this fall. Mr. Maier is enrolled in a seminar on Tuesday nights at USM.

Some of you may not have heard that the Alumni Association is honoring Mrs. May Pennington as Teacher of the Year. You are invited to visit with Mrs. Pennington at Homecoming on October 29 at a reception from 4 to 6 p.m. in the Gordon Room. Mrs. Pennington was a member of the ECJC faculty from 1946 to 1963. She now resides in Gallatin, Tennessee, where she teaches Latin and English.

Mrs. Everett has been quite busy lately, having visited a dozen women's clubs in the area. As President of this District of the Mississippi Federated Women's Clubs, Mrs. Everett represents the Mississippi clubwomen at many and varied meetings. Recently, she attended a workshop on Community Improvement in Jackson, and next week she will go to the University of Georgia for a meeting of the General Federated Women's Clubs. This will be one of three meetings being held in the nation and is financed entirely by the Sears Roebuck Foundation. In her free time, Mrs. Everett is teaching typing at Decatur High School.

ECJC FACULTY NEWSLETTER

Vol. I, No. 3

October 21, 1966

Several sightings of geese in the area foretell the approach of winter; and with colder weather, the tempo of activity on the campus quickens. That East Central's faculty has been busy is attested to by the following accounts of their activities.

East Central was represented at the annual Junior-Senior College Conference on the coast recently by Dr. Wright, Mr. Tucker, Mr. Brackeen, and Mr. Rives. You will hear more of the proceedings of this meeting in the future.

On October 24, you will see on campus a number of visiting teachers. They will be here to attend the District V Elementary Music Workshop. Mr. Fick has been coordinating plans for this meeting for Mrs. Fick who is chairman.

Miss Wood attended the Women's Division of the Mississippi Association of Health and Physical Education Teachers at Lake Roosevelt recently. One highlight of the two-day meeting was a lecture-demonstration by a member of the LSU faculty who is a native of Finland and a graduate of Helsinki University.

Mr. Simmons was among those present at a banquet at the Holiday Inn in Starkville last week when Dr. Richard Leftwich delivered the first annual lecture sponsored by Mississippi State University's Department of Economics. On Tuesday of this week, Mr. Simmons addressed the Newton Rotary Club. His topic was "Governmental Methods for Controlling the U.S. Economy".

Miss Bryant and members of the BSU extend a welcome to those of you who have not yet visited the new BSU Center which was dedicated on Sunday, October 9.

Mr. Vickers recently addressed the Present Day Club in Union at their annual husband's night. The title of his address was "If This Side Is Up, This Box Is Upside Down". Last week, he spoke at the Decatur Methodist Men's Club on

Mrs. Henry Blount has joined our staff on a parttime basis to releive the Dean of Women and her Associate on alternate weekends.

Members of the English faculty observed the latest in programmed teaching of a Freshman English Course when a representative from Science Research Associates delivered a lecture-demonstration Tuesday afternoon. Any of these teachers will be happy to tell you more of what they observed.

The Mid-Mississippi Development Association met on our campus last night.

Dean Brackeen was in Atlanta this week for a regional meeting of college financial aid officers.

Mr. Holliman is in Jackson today attending the Mississippi Library Association meeting.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

October 22, 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. - Department of Classroom Teachers Meeting. Meeting convenes in the auditorium with coffee at 9 a.m. All members of this organization are urged to attend. East Central will be in charge of the coffee hour at 9, and Mrs. Hull is conference chairman.

October 24, 1966 - 6 p.m. - Mississippi Education Association District Meeting. Meeting opens in Huff Auditorium, then breaks up into smaller groups. Since we are 100% in membership in MEA, let's be 100% at this meeting also.

November 1, 9:50 a.m. - Dr. W. D. McCain, President of the University of Southern Mississippi will speak in assembly. His topic is "Our Mississippi Heritage".

ECJC FACULTY NEWSLETTER

Vol. I, No. 4

February 15, 1967

The icy weather which hit us last week dampened the hopes of those on the campus who had the week before counted robins hopping around. However, the weather has not put an end to the activities of our faculty and staff.

It was good to see former president and Mrs. Arno Vincent on the campus recently. They informed us that they like their work in Meridian very much, and that their daughters are this year in the 7th and 8th grades.

Mr. Mayes was recently elevated to the rank of Captain in the Air National Guard Unit in Meridian. Captain Mayes spends one weekend per month with the unit.

Teachers are always happy to see their students do well, and East Central alumni have certainly been in the news recently. Milton Matthews was last month elected secretary - treasurer of the Department of Classroom Teachers. Melvin Tingle (59) of the Game and Fish Commission was seen recently on television for that organization, and last week Don Howington (60) was on the same program for the Farmers Home Administration of which he is a representative. Larry Hogue (61) Public Relations Director at Copiah-Lincoln Junior College, had an article in last month's MEA ADVANCE, and Roy Baker (57) will soon have a book of his drawings published by Harper and Rowe.

Most of you have probably read Mrs. Simmons' article about her trip to the National Council of Teachers of English. The article appeared in the MEA ADVANCE which came out last week.

Mrs. Everett, in her capacity as Vice-President of the Mississippi Federated Women's Clubs, recently spoke at Pachuta and Meridian. She will officiate at a district meeting in Quitman on March 27, and she has been designated the official hostess for the State Meeting to be held in Meridian on May 3, 4, and 5.

Mr. Fick and Mr. Maier represented East Central at the State Music Educators Conference at MSCW on February 3 and 4.

Mrs. Simmons will escort a group of students to the state Phi Theta Kappa Convention, also to be held at MSCW, this weekend.

Those of you who noticed an unusual amount of noise and activity on the second floor of the main classroom building will be pleased to know that it was all for a good cause. A much-needed typing classroom was being set up in Room 106.

Mrs. Wright, who last semester had to counsel with her students in the halls or at random moments in a vacant classroom, has been made an office in the office with Mrs. Everett.

Those of you who knew Mrs. Lil Guthrie, former assistant Dean of Women, will be happy to know that she visited with Miss Barber recently and was in good health after having been ill for some time.

The Manpower Training Center in Forest will graduate its first class in early March, and a new class in small gasoline engine repair will begin on March 6. Mr. Newell informs us that the eleven graduates of this program will be ready to go to work as soon as they graduate.

Plans for the new Fine Arts Building have been finalized and are now available for viewing in the President's Office.

Recent word received from Miss Una Harris indicates that she is enjoying her work at East Tennessee State University where this quarter she is teaching two classes of honor students and one class of repeating students. Also, she is involved in three women's clubs in Johnson City and teaching Sunday School. Miss Harris' letter contained this piece of advice: "Anyone who is planning to retire should get a great deal of rest now so that he can stand the hectic pace of retirement."

We are sorry to be losing Coach Chatwood and his family from the campus. We wish to take this opportunity to wish for them the very best.

The war in Viet-Nam is closer than one might think. Mrs. Everett, Miss Wood, and Mrs. Vickers all have brothers there. These ladies report that their brothers are well but homesick.

I am sure that you know by now that the grading on the hill next to the old barn was not a hunt for buried treasure but the beginning of a new football stadium for the college. It is our expectation to play on the field in September.

A training course on the IBM selectric typewriter and IBM dictation equipment was held last week for our business education teachers. A representative of the IBM Corporation was on campus to conduct the session.

Mrs. McPhail was elected Area Representative and Resolutions Chairman of the Mississippi Folklore Society when that group met at Ole Miss.

The Joe Clark family has moved into the house previously occupied by the Frank Rives family.

EVENTS TO LOOK FOR:

February 16, 17, and 18	North Miss. Junior College Conference Tournament in our gymnasium
February 20, 3:30 p.m.	Faculty Club Meeting
March 16 and 17	Miss. Education Association Meeting in Jackson

ECJC FACULTY NEWSLETTER

Vol. I, No. 5

March 23, 1967

East Central Junior College was well represented at MEA last week, and several teachers expressed amazement upon returning to work to realize that this is the ninth week of school. The semester is half over, and the tempo for the remainder of the year promises to be a fast one.

At one MEA meeting, the English Commission unanimously adopted a resolution commending Miss Una Harris for her years of service to the Commission and to the field of English teaching in the state.

Prior to the week of MEA, Mr. Harris represented East Central in New Orleans at the Southeastern Division meeting of the National Mathematics Association.

We understand that one of Mr. Guthrie's beef cattle joined a socially and politically prominent family recently when he was purchased by Jackson's Mayor Allen Thompson.

Dean Brackeen has travelled extensively the past two weeks throughout the five-county area speaking to seniors. Mr. Fick and the stage band accompanied him on some of the trips, and several favorable comments have come back about the band's performance.

Our congratulations go to Mrs. Jerry Laing, whom you have known as Miss Mary Wolverton. Mary and Jerry were married March 11 and are now making their home in Sebastopol.

Mr. Maier attended the Mississippi Junior College Choral Festival at Hinds Junior College two Saturdays ago.

In mentioning those faculty who have relatives in Viet-Nam, we failed to include the Crosses' son-in-law, William Neal. Lt. Neal is a seaplane pilot.

Among those present for the Leontyne Price benefit concert in Jackson recently were Mr. and Mrs. Ovid Vickers, Mrs. Frank Cross, and Miss Lucille Wood.

Recent visitors on the campus included Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Gilbert who teach at Andrew College in Cuthbert, Georgia. You will remember Mrs. Gilbert as Crispin Carter.

Miss Barber reports that in a recent letter from Miss Burton, Miss Burton was most complimentary of the Newsletter and asked to receive future issues. Miss Burton is well and says she keeps busier than she ever has.

In competition in the Mississippi Federated Clubs, a one-act play by Mrs. Alyne Simmons won first place for the Decatur Progressive Club of which Mrs. Simmons is currently president. Mrs. Simmons, Mrs. Everett, and Mrs. Hull were among those representing the Decatur Club at the District meeting in Quitman this week. At that meeting, these three ladies and another member presented Mrs. Simmons' play for the entire group present. It is rumored that, for a price, they would do the play again.

After being pre-empted by President Johnson last week, Mr. Shoemaker and some of his students will appear on WTOK TV the first week in April at 12 noon. This is a part of a series featuring East Central's vocational-technical programs. Mr. Guthrie has already appeared with three of his drafting students, and so has Mr. Bowman and some of his auto mechanics students.

As a part of Forest City Schools' recent self-evaluation, Mr. Tucker, Mr. Holliman, Mr. Bedwell, and Mr. Newell spent two days studying that school.

Former East Centralers have been in the forefront in recent weeks in the coaching profession. Thomas Gaines has been made head football coach at Philadelphia High School. Grady Johnson took his Enterprise High School girls to third place in state, and Jackie Ethridge's team won the A Boys state title. PeeWee Crocker took his Pelahatchie team to the state tourney also.

Those daring faculty members who participated in the womanless Miss America pageant recently were: Joe Clark, Tommy Thrash, Clayton Blount, Rudolph Mayes, Ed Maier, and Ovid Vickers. Miss Wood was one of the judges who undertook the difficult task of selecting a winner.

Those of you who missed the faculty meeting last week might not have heard of the appointment of Billy W. Baucum, currently at Hickory High School, as assistant football coach.

Our nightwatchman, Mr. Langham, is hospitalized in Union, and has been in serious condition. At last report, he was some better. Other members of the maintenance crew are filling in for Mr. Langham at present.

Mr. Lee, who has also been ill, is able to be back at work after a stay in the hospital.

Dean Brackeen has just returned from Dallas where he attended the American Guidance Association meeting.

The baseball team will open its season next week. Watch the Daily Bulletin for announcements of games.

You are encouraged to hear the Millsaps Choir tonight at 8:00 in the Auditorium.

Keep in mind the activities during Religious Emphasis Week beginning Monday, March 27.

With the end of school in sight, several of the faculty have announced plans for a full summer ahead:

Mr. Guthrie has been accepted for an eight-week summer institute at Oak Ridge, Tennessee. The eight weeks will be spent updating vocational technical teachers in the changing skills and technologies of modern industry. The program is funded by the U.S. Office of Education and will be coordinated by the University of Tennessee. Mrs. Guthrie has been elected to oversee the Guthrie farm in Mr. Guthrie's absence.

As was announced earlier in the Tom-Tom, Mr. Coburn will be a member of a summer institute at the University of Oklahoma. Mrs. Coburn and the children will accompany Mr. Coburn.

Mr. Maier will be in school at Southern this summer, and Coach Clark will be at Mississippi College. Others attending summer school will be Mrs. McPhail, Mr. McCarty and Mr. Ethridge, all of whom will be at Southern.

This being an election year, Mrs. Hull will spend a busy summer backing her husband for Clarke County Superintendent of Education.

East Central was represented at the recent meeting of the Mississippi Academy of Science in Biloxi by Mr. Cross, Mr. Coburn, and Mr. Leatherwood.

In Atlanta two weeks ago, Mr. Fick, Mr. Maier, and two music students attended the regional meeting of the Music Educators National Council. They were also accompanied by Mrs. Fick who represented the Meridian Public Schools. Mr. Fick and Mr. Maier report a full but rewarding three days which included many musical presentations by Atlanta students.

Recent visitors on the campus included Tommy and Renee Guthrie and Blake

Enterprise, Alabama. Tommy has recently been named Registrar at the new Enterprise Junior College.

Information concerning an educational broadcast media institute at the University of Mississippi this summer is on file in Dean Tucker's office. The institute is open to faculty members who are interested in the development of educational broadcasting systems. Stipends for the institute are available. Dean Tucker will be happy to give additional information to anyone who is interested.

Mike McCarty has been approved for a one-year leave of absence to work on the Master of Fine Arts Degree. Mr. McCarty will be replaced for the year by John David Baker.

Mrs. Hull represented East Central at a District M E A meeting in Canton last Saturday. Mrs. Hull will be glad to give you a report of this meeting.

This coming Saturday, May 13, Miss Wood will accompany the tennis team to the state junior college tennis tournament in Raymond.

Mr. Vickers, Mrs. McPhail, and Mrs. Cross attended the meeting of the re-organized Mississippi Folklore Society in Hattiesburg last Saturday. Mrs. McPhail is resolutions chairman of the organization, and Mr. Vickers is constitution chairman. Mrs. McPhail and Mr. Vickers indicate that the Folklore Society is composed of people in the state who are interested in the folkways and folk history of the state. Anyone interested in joining may obtain more information from either of these faculty members.

Those faculty members who attended the annual Phi Theta banquet were: Mr. Mayes, Miss Wood, Mrs. Hull, Mr. Vickers, Dr. and Mrs. Wright, and the Phi Theta Kappa sponsor, Mrs. Simmons.

Those of you who taught Shirley Chaney last year will want to read her article in this month's MEA ADVANCE.

When the Mississippi Federated Women's Clubs met for a statewide meeting last week in Meridian, Mrs. Jessie Everett was the official hostess. Also attending the meeting were Mrs. Simmons and Mrs. Tommy Thrash who assisted in serving at the reception on Thursday evening. Mrs. Everett, who is president of this district, tied for first place as "District President of the Year". There are six districts in the state.

We extend to Miss Barfoot and members of her May Day Committee a special thanks for executing a successful May Day. We feel that this Committee, and those who helped them, did an outstanding job. Those who saw the gymnasium at noon on May Day and again at 5:30 that day can especially appreciate the work of this group.

We trust that the Bowmans are settled in their new quarters following their decision to move due to conditions beyond their control.

Clinton Russell is the newly-elected president of the Decatur PTA.

Evidence that the new football field is shaping up is seen in the fact that the lights have been mounted in their new positions.

Rumor has it that the day after graduation Mr. and Mrs. Bedwell will board a jet for Oregon to visit their daughter and her family.

A recent informal survey revealed 21 ECJC graduates teaching in Mississippi's institutions of higher learning (exclusive of ECJC). They are: Southern - Tom Chisholm and Glen Adkins; Miss. College - Verbie Lovorn; Ole Miss - Kenneth Wooten; State - Swinton Hill, Rupert Palmer, Chester Wells, Jack Griffin; Pearl River Jr. College - Thurmon Alley; Delta Jr. College - Jack Harris; Northwest Jr. College - Don Eure; Co-Lin Jr. College - Larry Hogue, Frank Hunter; Meridian Jr. College - Betty Walton, Sara Griffin; East Miss. Jr. College - Ikie Ethridge, Troy Williamson; Itawamba Jr. College - Doc Wall, Curtis Monroe; Hinds - Mr. Thera Beamon; Jones - Milton Carter; We are sure that this list is not complete, and if you know of others please let us know.

All indications are that this year's graduation will offer two good addresses: one on Sunday evening by Dr. Cecil Randall of Tuscaloosa and the other on Friday evening by Dr. Dan Young of Vanderbilt University.

E.C.J.C. FACULTY NEWSLETTER

Vol. I, No. 7

May 19, 1967

We had thought that last week's faculty newsletter would be the final one for this year, but a number of items of interest have come to our attention. So here is one more Newsletter.

Word has been received that the Decatur Jaycees, under the leadership of Tommy Thrash, President, have been awarded First Place in State competition in Community Development projects. At the State Jaycee Convention next weekend, Mr. Thrash will be a candidate for vice-president of Area F.

Brother Neill, tireless as ever, last weekend took a group of students to visit Scarritt College in Nashville. While there, they visited a number of places of interest and talked with Jimmy Carr, an ECJC graduate who is now youth director of Nashville's largest Methodist Church.

Dean Brackeen was in Jackson for a few days recently with the National Guard.

The Wesley Foundation Room will be the setting of the wedding of Miss Anne Barfoot and Lt. Richard Rouse on June 4. Our best wishes go with Miss Barfoot as she goes to live in Ohio.

Mr. Vickers attended the Junior-Senior banquet at Decatur High School last week and spoke on "Let's Remember."

An alumni bulletin from Southern revealed the fact that Andrew F. Webb, in whose memory our Men's Intramural Alumni Award was given, has been posthumously honored with membership in Southern's Sports Hall of Fame.

Mrs. Mayes is saying goodbye to Mr. Mayes next weekend. He will be away at Air National Guard Camp for two weeks, then at Ole Miss for the next ten

attending the Educational Media Institute. Mrs. Mayes will be busy also, having enrolled in a cake decorating course in Jackson and also an IBM course.

We inadvertently left Mr. Harris' name off the list of those faculty members who attended the Phi Theta Kappa banquet. Mr. Harris was not only a guest at the banquet but is a Phi Theta Kappa Alumni member.

Carolyn Hogue, whose father, Mr. Coyt Hogue, teaches at the MDTA Center in Forest, received the award at Southern for the best supporting actress of the year. Another ECJC alumnus, Jim Meli, won a like award at State for best supporting actor.

David Rives has been chosen to be one of Decatur's representatives to Boys State this summer.

The Decatur Lions Club had its charter night in the cafeteria recently. Mr. Rives and Mr. Griffin are members of the organization, and Dr. Wright is President.

Dean Tucker delivered the graduation address at Hickory High School this week.

The annual spring faculty supper was enjoyed by about fifty of the faculty and staff and their families this week.

Coach Chatwood and his family are moving to Hattiesburg soon for Coach to enter the University of Southern Mississippi.

One of Decatur's Little League teams has a basketball coach as its coach. We understand that the first day of practice Coach Brackeen was heard shouting, "Get that rebound."

In mentioning those who will be attending summer institutes this summer we failed to include Mr. Griffin, who will be attending the Business Managers Institute at the University of Omaha.

Our warm congratulations go to Mr. Leatherwood to whom this year's WoHeLo is dedicated. I am sure the entire faculty endorses this dedication.

Our good wishes go with Miss Barber as she enters the hospital next week for surgery. Miss Barber plans to be back here before the opening of summer school.

At least one staff member has the right idea for the "between terms" vacation. Mr. Lee says he and his family are going fishing to a spot so far back in the woods that the only way to get mail is by helicopter.

On June 1, Mrs. Everett will install the new officers of the Literary Corner Club at the Ramada Inn in Meridian. Mrs. Everett will be at Ole Miss for the first term of the summer session.

E.C.J.C. FACULTY NEWSLETTER

Vol. II, No. 1

October 6, 1967

It is difficult to believe that we are now in the fifth week of the semester. However, from the stack of pink slips seen in the Registrar's Office, it would seem that a number of students are going to realize it's the fifth week. Even with pink slips to prepare, our faculty and staff have been quite busy in activities outside the classroom.

We welcome to the campus Mr. John Atchley who has joined the faculty as drafting instructor. Mr. Atchley and his family reside in Pulaski, and he will be commuting from there.

Dean Tucker and Mr. Griffin were in Washington on August 29 and 30 to confer with officials in the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare and in the American Association of Junior Colleges office. On October 1 and 2, Dean Tucker returned to Washington for further discussions concerning East Central's participation in the Title III programs.

Mrs. Hull and Mrs. Everett accompanied a group of their students to Meridian Wednesday of this week for a style show.

We understand that Miss Wood's girls' intramurals are already in swing with keen competition promised in all events.

Mr. Thrash last weekend attended a statewide meeting of Jaycees in Tupelo. He is Vice-President of Area F which includes five East Central Mississippi Counties.

Mr. Vickers and Jorge Ortega presented a program on Jorge's home country in Hickory this week. The students there especially enjoyed seeing Jorge in native Guatemalan costumes.

Those of you who have been in the workroom in the library recently have noticed that the shelves are full of new books about to be put into circulation. These books were purchased under the federal library grant. Although a large number of books have been received, others are on order; and another large order will be placed in the near future. If you have requests for library books to be bought, please submit a list to the Librarian, Dean Tucker, or the Library Committee.

Mr. Peterson has announced the cast for his fall play, The Curious Savage, and is now in rehearsal. Mark your calendar for November 9 for the play.

We are sorry to report that Mrs. Simmons' recovery has been slower than she had anticipated, and the doctor has recommended bedrest for a few more days.

Homecoming is November 4, and plans for the activities of that day will be announced soon.

Congratulations to the Shoemakers on the birth of their fifth son who arrived on October 4 at 11 p.m. Jimmy Doyle weighed 7 lbs., 9 oz.

Congratulations also go to the Leatherwoods on the birth of their first grandchild, a son born to Patricia and Larry Cumberland in Texas.

Interested in a weekend trip to New York? Mr. Peterson has two free tickets to any Broadway show you would like to see. This includes such hits as Cabaret and Mame. All it would cost you would be the plane tickets, hotel, and food. We recommend this especially to those men on the faculty whose wives like unusual birthday or anniversary presents.

p. 2

Mrs. Hull spent last weekend in Jackson attending the Delta Kappa Gamma statewide workshop. Mrs. Hull is president of the local chapter.

It is good to see Miss Barber getting around without her crutch. Miss Barber is referring to the past summer as the longest she has ever spent.

Dr. Wright was in Chattanooga part of this week. He was a member of a Southern Association Committee to evaluate Chattanooga State Institute of Technology for membership in the Association.

You will be interested to know that all details for the new vocational-technical building have been worked out, bids have been let, and it is expected that contractors will move onto the site by October 23. Total cost of the building will be \$650,000.

Plans for the fine arts building are progressing nicely, and we hope for an opening bid date of January on that building.

The next faculty club meeting will be on October 17. Please reserve that afternoon for this meeting.

Decatur High School's homecoming will be on October 13 with the parade at 5 p.m. and pre-game activities at 7 p.m.

Congratulations go to Coach Founcey and Coach Baucum on on their fourth victory of the season last night in Forest.

Mr. Mack Weems, a member of the Board of Trustees, is back at his home in Forest after spending a number of days in the University Hospital in Jackson. Mr. Weems was seriously injured in an automobile accident recently.

ECJC FACULTY NEWSLETTER

Vol. II, No. 2

November 22, 1967

For your Thanksgiving Holiday reading pleasure, we offer this Faculty Newsletter along with the wish that each of you will have a happy Thanksgiving.

The Junior College All-Star Football Game has been set for December 9 at Memorial Stadium in Jackson. Four ECJC players will participate (Jimmy Link, Rocco Palmieri, Billy Henderson, Joel Triplett). You may obtain tickets from members of the Phi Theta Kappa for \$3.

Dr. Wright was in Atlanta recently for a meeting of the Commission on Membership of the Southern Association. As a result of this meeting, Dr. Wright visited Gaston College in North Carolina which is up for membership in the Association.

Honored at the Alumni Banquet on Homecoming Day was Mr. D. C. Alford who was chosen Alumnus of the Year. Mr. Alford, who is now a member of the Board of Trustees, graduated from ECJC in 1941 and continually expresses a vital interest in the growth of his alma mater.

Mr. Harris and the band will travel to Greenwood on December 1 to take part in the Festival of Lights which each year features more than 100 marching bands from throughout the state. The band will also be appearing in Christmas parades in the area in the next few weeks.

Early this month, Mr. Fick and his music students played hosts to the Elementary Music Education Workshop held on the campus. The loud bumping noises which some of you might remember hearing that day were a method of keeping time and apparently is the latest thing in elementary music teaching.

When the Mississippi Library Association met for its forty-ninth annual convention at the Edgewater Gulf Hotel in Biloxi recently, Mr. Holliman was among the more than 100 delegates.

Ovid Vickers filled two speaking dates recently - one at the Philadelphia Women's Club and the other at the Decatur Progressive Women's Club.

Mrs. Hull attended the Mississippi Home Economics Association in Jackson recently. On the second day of the meeting, Mrs. Bowman accompanied 14 of Mrs. Hull's students to Jackson where they joined Mrs. Hull for the meeting. Sue Peoples of ECJC was elected State Treasurer of the College Section of the MHEA.

Miss Wood was a recent winner in a national photography contest, but one of the stipulations of the contest was that winners could not publicize their winning photographs. So-- see Miss Wood if you would like to hear about the contest and see the winning picture. By the way, Miss Wood and her family will welcome home today their brother James who has just returned from a year in Viet-Nam.

Progress on the Vocational-Technical Building is going according to schedule thanks to the beautiful fall weather we have had. We are informed by the architect that plans for the Vocational Agriculture Building will go to the Building Commission within three weeks. Plans for the Fine Arts Building are in the last stages of development, and it is anticipated that this building will be put up for bids in January.

The Delta Kappa Gamma, of which Mrs. Hull is chapter president, met with Mrs. Everett for its November meeting. Mrs. Simmons and Miss Wood, who are also members, were also at the meeting.

When Mr. Peterson accompanied a group to Ole Miss recently to see that school's production of THE LADY IS NOT FOR BURNING, two stow-aways also made the trip. Mrs. Mayes and Jackie decided at the last minute to go along and visit with Mr. Mayes. And would you believe that Mrs. Mayes in her eagerness to get off left a number for one of the other secretaries to call Mr. Mayes, and it turned out that the number she left was the Ole Miss Zip Code!?!

Books are still arriving in the library from the original federal grant book order, and another order was mailed yesterday.

Dean Tucker and Mr. Coburn were at Memphis State recently for demonstrations on the use of microscopes and closed circuit television.

Mr. Newell was present to represent East Central when the State Vocational Coordinators and Directors met recently in Jackson.

Our Title III (Higher Education Act) application was submitted on November 15 for a continuation of all the programs now in progress at ECJC plus additional programs which would be of great value to the institution.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

November 22 (today) - Community Thanksgiving Service - Decatur
Methodist Church - 7:30 p. m.

November 28 - Faculty Club Meeting - 3:30 p. m.

December 1 - First home basketball game

December 7 - Miss. Association of Supervisors will meet on campus

December 14 - Beauty Pageant - Auditorium

December 19 - Christmas holidays begin

ECJC FACULTY NEWSLETTER

Vol. II, No. 3

February 19, 1968

A sure sign that spring is about to arrive on the ECJC campus is not necessarily a robin or a crocus, but the fact that the May Day Committee is at work. May Day this year will be on May 2, and working toward that day we ask that each of you cooperate with the Steering Committee in any way you are asked to help.

The vocational department instructors, it seems, are much in demand these days as television personalities. Mr. Shoemaker and Mr. Guthrie have already taken their turns before the cameras (WTOK's Farm and Home Report) as has Mr. Newell. Mr. Bowman will be on this program in March.

We are happy to report that after a month's leave due to a back injury Mrs. Maier is able to return to her teaching position in Union.

A new book by a former ECJC student has been published by the Vantage Press. Many of you will remember Hedy Ann Williams, whose two novellas A SOLITARY SOUTHWIND and TWENTIETH CENTURY MARY are published together in one book.

Another certainty that spring is not far away is the sight of the football team in practice. The team is undergoing a split session, taking time out for baseball. Coach Baucum is in Jackson today drawing up the baseball schedule.

Coach Clark is also in Jackson today drawing up the brackets for the North Miss. Junior College Tournament to be held in Itawamba February 22-24. With 11 freshmen on the team this year, Coach Clark posted a win-loss record of 10 wins and 11 losses.

Some of you might have seen some new commerce department equipment being unloaded recently. The college was able to acquire, with State Department assistance, seventeen new IBM Selectric typewriters and a new Gestetner Duplicator. An electronic calculator will also be added to the department in the near future.

Bids for the agriculture technology building and the addition to the science building were opened February 6, and as soon as contracts are signed, construction will begin on these two projects.

Mr. Simmons was in Forest recently to speak to the B&PW Club at their annual international relations meeting.

Congratulations to Miss Wood and her girls' basketball team for completing a successful season by winning the invitational tournament held here Friday and Saturday. Miss Wood and the girls put in a lot of hours of work and have done a commendable job.

Among delegates at the Winter Board meeting of the Mississippi Jaycees last weekend in Hattiesburg was Tommy Thrash, Vice-President of Area F. He also represented the local chapter as the Decatur recipient of the Distinguished Service Award for 1967-68.

Word has been received from the Southern Association that Dr. Wright has been appointed Chairman of the Committee on Membership for Junior Colleges.

Mrs. Everett was in Jackson last weekend to represent East Central at a State Vocational Conference for Business Education instructors.

Mr. Vickers filled three speaking engagements recently - at ladies clubs in Quitman and Ackerman, and at the Newton County Teachers Association annual banquet.

We thought you might be interested to know that Anne (Barfoot) Rouse and Lt. Rouse have moved to Austin, Texas, where Anne will remain while Lt. Rouse is in Viet-Nam for a year. Anne's address is: Apt. 204, 1801 S. Lakeshore Blvd., Austin, Texas 78741.

The Forest MDTA Center reopened today with two classes meeting.

Mr. Newell recently travelled to Cleveland, Ohio for a national conference of vocational co-ordinators.

Members of the faculty enrolled in night classes this semester (or quarter) are: Mr. Guthrie, Mr. Peterson, Mr. Newell, Mr. Tucker, Mr. Harris, and Mr. Simmons will begin a course next week.

This coming September, Northeast Miss. Junior College at Booneville will begin playing football. They will begin their venture in football with an eight-game schedule this fall.

Dean Brackeen was at Millsaps recently for a financial aids conference and was in Jackson on another date for a meeting of the Advisory Board of the Mississippi Guidance Association.

East Central hosted 25 guidance counselors and principals from 15 high schools in the five-county area at a recent Junior College - High School Conference. The purpose of the conference was to familiarize the high school representatives with opportunities for their students at ECJC and also to acquaint them with the procedures of admission, financial aid, etc. It is believed that this type of conference will solve many of the problems faced in the past by students entering our college.

Last week you received a notice concerning the College Division Meeting and Luncheon to be held in the Olymic Room at the Heidelberg on Thursday of MEA.

ECJC FACULTY NEWSLETTER

Summer, 1967

With the first five weeks of summer school over, thoughts are already turning toward the fall session which opens on September 4. As you can see from this short newsletter, it has been (and will continue to be) a busy summer for most of our faculty and staff.

Plans for the new vocational-technical building have gone to the State Building Commission for approval, and it is hoped that bids on the building will be let during the last week in August.

The college has received, in addition to the grants you have already heard about, a federal grant of \$8,000 for library improvement and a grant of \$52,000 toward the construction of the new fine arts building.

Mr. Jackson E. Smith was on campus this week. He was on his way home from a four-week audio-visual education workshop at Texas Tech. Mr. Mayes, as you know, is in a similar workshop at Ole Miss this summer.

Two of our faculty members have been ill this summer. Mr. McCarty was hospitalized for an appendectomy, and Mr. Ethridge has been ill at home.

Mrs. Martha Graham, whom all of you know and who will be a member of our faculty this fall, had orthopedic surgery in Jackson last week; and Mr. Calvin Hull also underwent surgery recently in Jackson.

Mrs. Madaline Mayes recently completed an IBM Course in Jackson and since then has successfully executed her knowledge on the IBM 402 Machine.

Dr. Wright and his family were members of a Kellogg Institute for New Junior College Presidents at Young Harris Junior College in Georgia recently.

The George Mason family is constructing a new home on their farm near Newton.

Coach Baucum and his family have moved into their apartment in Scott Hall.

Mr. Jack Oden has been named as a member of the faculty for the coming year to replace Mr. Ethridge who will be away in school. Mr. Oden and his wife will be moving to the campus in late August.

Mrs. McPhail has resigned her position on the faculty to go to Atlanta where her husband will be enrolled at Georgia Tech. Mrs. McPhail plans to teach in the Atlanta School System.

You will be happy to know that, while she is still on crutches, Miss Barber is progressing nicely and hopes to soon be walking on both feet.

Dean Brackman recently attended a conference for student financial aid counselors in Biloxi.

Information concerning the pre-session conference will be mailed to you the latter part of August. In the meantime, it is our sincere wish that each of you have a pleasant time the remainder of the summer.
